FILE DESCRIPTION

BUREAU FILE

SUBJECT National Negro Congress

FILE NO. HQ 61-6728

Section # 10

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK, N. Y.

FILE NO. 100-869 kjf

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
PHILADELPHIA, PA.	3-11-46	1/11, 21,22,29; 2/15,29/46	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

ARTHUR HUFF FAUSET, Board member of National Negro Congress, promised that organization that he would promote a mass march on Washington to urge passage of the permanent F.E.P.C. bill. Although FAUSET promised that he would promote the idea in Philadelphia, he actually did not, inasmuch as he, FAUSET, was interested in the furtherance of his own organization, United Peoples Action Committee, a Communist dominated inter-racial group, rather than promote activities in the National Negro Congress in Philadelphia.

- RUC -

b7c

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Washington, D. C., on January 30, 1946. Teletype from Washington Field, dated January 24, 1946.

DETAILS: AT PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Referenced teletype stated that the National Negro Congress, on January 17, 1946, had planned that a mass delegation of some four hundred people, meet in Washington to lobby for a permanent F.E.P.C. bill. The idea was originally promoted by BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, Jr., and MAX YERGAN in New York City. [redacted] ARTHUR HUFF FAUSET was the only organizational representative who was formally contacted on this project in the Philadelphia area. FAUSET was to have laid ground work and promoted the idea in Philadelphia with other organizational leaders.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: H. B. Fletcher, SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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[redacted] stated that FAUSET was a board member of the National Negro Congress and although he did promise the National Negro Congress Board in New York City that he would promote the idea in Philadelphia, he actually did not, because he, FAUSET is primarily interested in the promotion of his own organization, the United Peoples Action Committee, which is a Communist dominated inter-racial group.

The National Negro Congress had at one time been rather active in Philadelphia and several subsequent attempts were made to recreate the organization, but failed primarily due to FAUSET's disinterest.

[redacted]

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[redacted]

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Continued contacts made with [redacted] failed to disclose that any mass march on Washington was or is contemplated.

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Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK DETROIT FILE NO. 100-1049

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	3/15/46	1/30; 2/13,19; 3/6/46	[redacted] meg

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS (Detroit Branch)	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Recent activities of Subject group largely concerned with sponsorship and development of a Negro Veterans group. [redacted] NNC agitating for improved facilities at local high school in a Negro section in Detroit. [redacted] Support for FEPC and the GM strikers continue as points on the NNC's agenda. No announcements relative to the program of the scheduled National Convention to be held in Detroit this coming May made as yet.

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REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated January 17, 1946 at Detroit, Michigan.

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DETAILS: The activities of the Detroit Branch of the National Negro Congress for the past two months have been largely centered along the lines of

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a Negro Veterans group. The first indication received by this office that such a group was planned was reported by [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, on [redacted] Civil Rights Federation, in a conversation with [redacted] member of the Negro Congress [redacted] was advised [redacted] that members of the local branch of the National Negro Congress had conferred with MAX YERGAN, the National President of the National Negro Congress, who was in Detroit to address the Detroit Chapter and [redacted] this was a very successful meeting which had merely resulted in YERGAN's giving his general approval to the program, although no definite steps had been planned.

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Special announcement for the formation of this proposed group was made in the Negro papers which were published in Detroit on January 11, 1946. The most complete report appeared in the edition of the Pittsburgh Courier and is as follows:

"For Jobs, Housing

"NNC PLANS ORGANIZATION OF NEGRO VETERANS COUNCIL

"Under the sponsorship of the veterans' section of the Detroit Chapter, National Negro Congress, plans are under way for the organization of a city-wide Negro veterans' council. In a primary organizational set-up move, the Congress will hold a veterans' mass meeting, Sunday afternoon, Jan. 20, at 3:30 o'clock, in the auditorium of the Twelve Horsemen's Civic Center.

"The January 20 session will feature discussions by veterans of the plausibility of such an organization along with a presentation of the organization's plans for activity which will include emphasis upon the re-employment and new employment of Negro

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"veterans; housing; discrimination against Negro veterans and the housing problem in general; job opportunities for Negro veterans, and a study of existent and proposed national and local legislation as it affects the Negro veteran.

"Airman Heads Committee

"Chairing the veterans' organization committee is Coleman Young, former member of the U. S. Army Air Forces, who, prior to his induction, was executive secretary of the Detroit National Negro Congress. Assisting Mr. Young are three other prominent World War II veterans, Clarence Bradley, commander of the recently organized Veterans' Post 415; Paul Kirk, well known civic and labor leader who was discharged from active duty last December, and Arthur Bowman, popular young political and civic leader, former member of the U. S. Navy and recently named Midwest organizer for the Detroit National Negro Congress.

"Bowman is also secretary of the Overseas Cab Company, which is now in process of formation by a group of local Negro veterans."

The meeting which was planned for January 20, 1946 was held at 3:30 P. M. at the Twelve Horsemen Civic Center, 114 Erskine, Detroit. The announcement of this meeting which appeared in the Michigan Chronicle of January 19, 1946 listed the following members of the Professional Committee for the Council of Veterans which was to be formed. They were H. D. ROBERTS, Commander of Frederick Douglass Post 214, American Legion; JOE T. BAKER of the Congress of Veterans of World War II; VERA VANDERBERG, Executive Secretary of the National Negro Congress; CLARENCE BRADLEY of the American Legion Post 415; FRANCES L. PRICE of the National Negro Congress, and GEORGE H. FIELDS of the Congress of Veterans of World War II.

The above meeting was held and a report of its activities appeared in the Detroit Tribune for January 26, 1946 as follows:

"MICHIGAN VETS COUNCIL FORMED

"A provisional committee for a veterans' council for Michigan was established at a meeting in Detroit attended by about 100 ex-servicemen last week. The meeting was addressed by State Representative Tracy Doll and by William Marshall, UAW-CIO co-ordinator of veterans' activities. Resolutions in support of striking CIO unions were adopted, and the committee voted to send a delegation to Lansing to discuss a veterans' bonus with Gov. Kelly.

"The delegates elected to visit the governor were: Larry Young, Frederick Douglass Post American Legion; Albert Leonard, Overseas Cab Co.; Clarence Bradley, American Legion Posts 415 and 418; Leroy Kirton, Amvets; Mr. Polk, Tom Phillips Post American Legion; Charles Leber and Hugh Lee-Smith.

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"Dr. F. A. Potter and George Hutchinson agreed to serve as a committee on housing.

"The organization of the proposed council was presented by Arthur Bowman. He suggested a general body made up of all interested veterans and an executive board made up of two representatives from each participating veterans organization plus two veterans at large, representing no particular organization.

"The collection was turned over to the National Negro Congress to defray expenses incurred in calling the meeting and to cover telegrams sent to Michigan's senators asking the mto vote for cloture on the FEPC filibuster."

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[redacted] was concerned with the establishment of a Negro Post in Detroit sponsored by the National Negro Congress. He reported on the meeting held by that group on January 20 last, at which approximately 200 veterans had been present and he stated that this organization had possibilities of being used by the Party and said that the group should contain all the Negro Communist veterans and "there is a possibility that the Party will be able to take over this organization in its entirety."

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[redacted] a delegation went to Lansing, Michigan, to lobby for aid at the State Capital, particularly to confer with state officials relative to the $51,000,000.00 war fund which the State has set aside for returning service men. Among the members of the delegation going to Lansing were:

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GEORGE HUTCHINSON and CHARLES LEBER, from the VFU; COLEMAN YOUNG, from the Michigan Veterans Conference; ADELL ANDERSON; VELMA WHITE; JUANITA PALLEY; HUGHEY L. SMITH and LEROY KURTIN, all of the latter being of the National Negro Congress. The Pittsburgh Courier of February 23, 1946 reported the results of a meeting of the organizing committee of the National Negro Congress Veterans' Group, stating that the purpose of the organization was to list as many local Negro veterans as possible to become affiliated with a national Negro organization to be organized in New York City. It stated that the members of this organizing committee were QUILL PETTIWAY, Chairman; HUGHEY LEE-SMITH, Secretary; CHARLES SMITH, Treasurer; JOHN H. FANCHER; JAMES E. BLACKWELL; PERRY A. HARRIS; JOHN BELL, JR; CLEOPHAS E. JOHNSON; SAMUEL RICHARDS; DIAMOND MARTIN; JOHN GULLETT; JAMES STEELE; FREDERICK BURTON; JAMES SAUNDERS; DeWITT WHELER; ISADORE SINGLETON; PAUL S. KIRK; LEROY KIRSTEN; COLEMAN YOUNG; LAFAYETTE WILLIS and Dr. E. FRANKLIN POTTER.

No further activities on the part of the NNC in the formation of this organization have come to the attention of this office and no activities of the club itself aside from participation in the above reported lobby expedition to Lansing, relative to the Veterans Fund have taken place.

Aside from their activities in behalf of the veterans group, the local chapter of the NNC has recently instituted a campaign to improve the facilities of the Miller High School and on February 5, 1946 representatives of the NNC headed by its president, LeBRON SIMMONS met with the Board of Education of the City of Detroit.

The National Negro Congress specifically claimed that Miller High School was overcrowded, its auditorium was inadequate for the exercises held in it, the physical education facilities were inadequate to accommodate the number of pupils in attendance, that the courses offered were not as numerous or as advanced as those given in other High Schools in the City and requested immediate construction of an adequate school on the lower eastside and the reconversion of Miller School in its former status as an intermediate school.

In explanation of the above, the Miller High School is located inthe heart of the Negro District in the lower eastside of Detroit. It was constructed to be an intermediate school, but the large influx of Negroes during the recent years necessitated some stop-gap measure to fill the educational needs in that District and the Miller School was converted into a High School and due to wartime conditions the City has been unable to remedy the conditions which exist in the School at present, which are acknowledged by the School Board, its development beyond their control due to circumstances and in a result of discrimination.

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The Congress itself has conceded that the conditions at Miller High School are a development from circumstances that are without the control of individuals but are now pressing their campaign to have these conditions improve. Subsequent to the conference between the NNC and the School Board referred to above, the School Board has indicated its intention to take measures which will alleviate the conditions in the immediate present and to institute a long range program to establish a High School in the District which will be on a par with those in the other sections of the City.

On February 5, the day that the conference with the School Board was held, the NNC contacted District 7 of the CP and requested that some representative from the "Daily Worker" cover this meeting in order that it might be reported in that newspaper.

According to the Detroit "Tribune" for January 26, 1946, THELMA M. DALE of New York City, Field Secretary of the NNC, would address a general membership meeting of the Detroit Council of the NNC in Detroit on February 27, reporting to that group the results of an international womens conference recently held at Paris, France, to which she had been a delegate. In their issue of February 2, The Tribune reported Miss DALE's appearance as scheduled.

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The regular monthly announcement of the general membership meeting of the National Negro Congress which is received by this office from [redacted] reported that on January 27, on which date Miss DALE spoke, that the agenda of the group would include support for the GM strikers and the FEPC with the members of the Congress being requested to bring canned goods and food staples to the meeting for distribution to the strikers.

A similar letter announcement dated February [illegible] was furnished by the Informant and related to the general membership meeting held February 17. The agenda at that time was (1) Report in progress of the [illegible] High School Campaign (2) a dramatic skit in observance of Negro History Week (3) Report of delegates to Washington on the FEPC (4) preparation for the [illegible] membership drive which begins in March (5) Report of a labor committee with a plea for the NNC members to report for assignment on the GM picket line.

This latter announcement indicated that the NNC Tenth Anniversary Convention would be held in Detroit in May, 1946, but furnished no other details concerning this forthcoming convention and no other announcements or details relating to this forthcoming National Convention have come to the attention of this office.

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UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

At Detroit, Michigan:

Will follow and report activities of the Detroit Branch of the National Negro Congress.

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Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT New York

FILE NO. 100-406

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Baltimore	3-25-46	2/5-11/46	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

15

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Baltimore chapter of National Negro Congress reactivated under Communist leadership and following Communist line. LUCY MASON, Negro [redacted] chairman of this chapter.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] August 12, 1944, Baltimore, Maryland. b7c

DETAILS: - AT BALTIMORE, MARYLAND - b7D

[redacted]

invitation to the Party members to attend a meeting of this Commission on October 20, 1945. The invitation announced that a report would be given of the special enlarged meeting of the National Negro Congress held recently in New York, which meeting had discussed:

(1) The present situation and the role of the National Negro Congress;

(2) Our attitude towards the principle of self-determination.

It is further noted that the Negro Commission was inviting one of the leaders of the National Negro Congress to take part in the discussion.

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On October 31 [redacted] discussed the names of people apparently interested in the formation of the National Negro Congress. The names of the following were discussed:

WILLIAM JOHNSON
RUTH FOX
A. U. FORTE
MAURICE BRAVERMAN
A. W. McPHERSON
Dr. J. E. T. CAMPER

[redacted]

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A resolution was passed in behalf of the National Negro Congress of Baltimore endorsing the General Motors and Furniture Workers strikes. A letter was also to be forwarded to the striking unions offering the services of the National Negro Congress.

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[redacted]

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On December 7 these individuals attended the afore-mentioned meeting at the National Press Club, together with other Communists from Maryland. It is to be noted that at this meeting JULIAN HUXLEY, English economist, and Congresswoman HELEN DOUGLAS, of California, spoke. Resolutions endorsing the FEPC, the Ball-Burton-Hatch Bill, full employment and minimum wage bills were introduced. McPHERSON on December 11 reported to the National Negro Congress on the results of the National Emergency Job Conference and at this time it was decided to notify all Communist Party members of the December 19 meeting scheduled at the Reverend YERBY's church. Resolutions endorsing the FEPC, etc, were to be prepared for this meeting.

[redacted] the following press release dated December 7, 1945, [redacted] b7D

"The Baltimore Council of the National Negro Congress wishes to express its full indorsement of labor's present drive for wage increases to meet the current cut-back in pay due to the cut in the number of working hours. The campaign for wage increases by Steel, Auto and Electrical are of great concern to the Negro people of the U. S. A. While it is true that approximately one million of the one-and a-half million Negroes formerly employed in war industries are now either jobless or employed at other jobs, it is still to their interest to help maintain decent wage levels. Any decrease in labor's take-home pay is a particular threat to America's Negro workers who still remain at the bottom pay levels. Labor played a most essential role in the military defeat of fascism. That role was not only in the production of arms, but in aiding the employment of Negroes in industry on a larger scale than ever before, and thus welding American anti-fascist unity.

"Now three months after V-J Day, with 2/3 of the Negroes out of industry, and several millions of unemployed, industry is obviously on a sit-down strike. The object of industry's sit-down strike is to grab and hold their super-war profits, post war gains as big as their war profits, and additional money at the expense of a living wage for America's millions, particularly the Negro people.

"The trusts and corporations are aided by a Congress supinely obeying the dictates of big business. Numerous anti-labor bills are being introduced, of which the most recent and

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vicious is the Norton Bill, inspired and dictated by Pres. Truman himself. So far the AFL and the CIO have both spoken against this proposed legislation which calls upon the government to act as strike-breaker and union-buster.

"President Truman did labor a great disservice in his statement of December 3rd, in which he proposed the above mentioned legislation and upheld General Motors.

"The National Negro Congress calls upon the Negro people to reject these anti-labor moves, to speak out against the strike-breaking actions of the President and Congress. Today unity between the Negro people and labor is most necessary to finish the fight for, as Phil Murray, Pres. of CIO, puts it, 'jobs, security, full employment and peace.'"

[redacted] (c) 41

"We wish to voice our objection to the manner in which your paper has been handling the Comfort Springs strike, particularly the article on the first page of the January 5 issue headlined 'Bias Denied at Plant on Strike.'

"It is the job of a newspaper to report all the facts in order to allow the public to draw its own conclusions. This story is not a factual one based on newspaper reporting but is a reprint of the statement by the Comfort Springs Company, an anti-labor as well as anti-Negro outfit.

"We contend that your paper should investigate the authenticity of any statement before presenting it to the public.

"In addition, we object to your acceptance of paid advertisements from the Comfort Springs Company for the purpose of hiring scab labor.

"We feel that your paper has not only been guilty of these sins of commission--but also of the sins of omission--

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to be specific, not one editorial has appeared during these eight weeks when over 200 Negro workers have been on the picket lines fighting for decent wages and working conditions.

"A paper whose circulation is largely Negro and is especially dedicated to the fight for the Negro people should be more concerned with every struggle, no matter how small, that will lead to bettering conditions under which Negroes live.

"This should be especially true of your paper, which is practically the only means Negroes of Baltimore have of expressing themselves and bringing their cases to the public.

"We trust that your editorial board will immediately look into these matters and try to rectify the damage already done.

"Sincerely yours,

LUCY MASON
Chairman of the National
Negro Congress"

b7D

[redacted]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY, N. Y. FILE NO. 100-949

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
WASHINGTON, D. C.	4-18-46	3/18,28,29; 4/1/46	[redacted] UPS:BJA 67C

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C 66331

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[redacted] 67D, C

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[redacted] The NNC is campaigning vigorously for a permanent FEPC bill, sixty five cents minimum wage bill, and friendship with the Soviet Union as a necessary means to peace.

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REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated January 30, 1946, at Washington, D. C. 67D

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

The Negro newspaper, THE CHICAGO DEFENDER, dated January 26, 1946, carried a picture of a portion of "the 1,000 persons from all over the Nation who marched on Washington last week to spur passage of the FEPC bill." According to the newspaper, Reverend C. J. RODGERS, Pastor of the Canaan Baptist Church; JUNE SHAW, of CIO-VAW Local #453; MILAS S. STEPHENS, Commander of George L. Giles Post, American Legion; Mrs. IRENE McCOY GAINES, Chicago Council of Negro Organizations; SUE WILSON TURNER, of the Joe Louis Service Guild; and CLAUDE M. LIGHTFOOT, [redacted] all were in attendance at the meeting. The newspaper photograph of this group is being maintained in the Washington Field Office file. b7c

The DAILY WORKER of January 24, 1946, carried an article captioned "Negro Congress Pickets Homes of Filibusters." It is to be noted that at this time several Senators were conducting a filibuster against the FEPC bill. The article pointed out that the home of Senator JOHN H. OVERTON, Democrat of Louisiana, was being picketed by the National Negro Congress in protest against the filibuster, and that the NNC contemplated picketing homes of other senators engaged in the filibustering. This information was obtained, according to the article, from DOROTHY K. FUNN, NNC Legislative Director. In connection with this picket line, the Washington AFRO-AMERICAN dated January 26, 1946, carried an article concerning the picketing of the senators and named the following persons as participating, among others, in the picket line:

LEON DICK (real name Leon Bick)
WILLIAM TYMUS
ROBERT LEE
OLIVER PALMER
JAMES HARRIS, of Local #471, UTWA
SELMA BLACKMAN, of UTSEA
INEZ SHORTER, Friends Social Club
Mrs. MARIE RICHARDSON.

It is to be noted in connection with this filibuster and according to information carried by the CHICAGO DEFENDER, a Negro paper dated January 26, 1946, that LUCKY MILLINDER, "a dynamic little band leader", was a speaker at a Washington rally which was called in protest against the FEPC filibuster.

61-7428-525

b7D

[redacted] the National Negro Congress, local chapter, has the following Communist Party members as members of the NNC:

[redacted]

b7D, C

[redacted] believes that [redacted] of the NNC and both are known Communist Party members.

On January 17, 1946, the National Negro Congress held a mass meeting at the Asbury Baptist Church, Washington, D. C., according to [redacted] the large first floor of the Church was about filled and the audience was predominantly colored with about one-third being white. The meeting was opened by DOROTHY FUND who presided as mistress of ceremonies. She welcomed the audience, mentioning that it was gratifying that such whole-hearted enthusiasm was shown in the interest for which this meeting was called. She stated that the FEPC is a major item of interest in America today. She then introduced Mr. ROBERT LEE, a World War veteran, white, who became very emotional during his speech and made a strong appeal for the support of the petition which is being circulated in impeachment against BILBO but he was unable to finish his speech. Following Mr. LEE, MARIE RICHARDSON presented from a manuscript a program of the District Council of the NNC. Miss RICHARDSON, who is the Executive Secretary of the local council, said that the Congress proposes to cooperate fully with labor in the struggle for higher wages, to assist in organizing the unorganized fight for the passage of the FEPC and the anti-poll tax bill, and better houses for Negroes. She further advised that to carry out this program, the Congress initialed its drive for 10,000 members.

b7D

The group was then addressed by DEVELS CAYTON, Executive Secretary of the NNC, an accomplished orator who stated that he had been associated with the CIO labor movement and the Maritime Union on the Pacific Coast. He related some of his experiences after the War when his family was on relief and stated that the labor movement is determined that the same conditions are not being repeated. The strikes and the fight for the FEPC bill is part of that program.

The meeting was then addressed by REVEREND WHITE, President of Local #471 of the Cafeteria Workers who is also the treasurer of the local council of the NNC. An appeal for money to carry out the

fight for passage of the FEPC bill and contributions were received from the Bookshop, the CIO, and individual members in the amount of $160.50. After the collection Councilman BEN DAVIS, of New York, was presented. During his speech he urged the passage of the FEPC bill, criticized President TRUMAN severely stating that he had done two things which had done more to kill the FEPC bill than all the BILBOs and RANKINs put together.

Also on the program were THELMA DALE, a former Washington colored girl who has recently attended the International Women's Conference in Europe. Congressman HUGH DeLACY, of Washington, in a short talk related something of the crumbling system and told of the fight that was being made and must continue if the forces of fascism are to be defeated.

b7D

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted]

b7D

According to [redacted] at the present time the National Negro Congress is continuing its fight for the FEPC act in order to attract attention to its membership drive which began January 17 and was supposed to end March 2. This period was extended from February 17. The membership drive of the Congress has gone on at a rather slow pace and, so far, it seems that the goal of 10,000 members will fall far short of this number by the closing period of the drive because only about 500 members have been obtained. Each Sunday representatives of the Negro Congress appear at various churches where they are given two or three minutes to make a plea for funds and membership. In this manner most of the present members have been obtained.

DOROTHY FUNN, the Legislative Representative of the NNC, is the guiding spirit of the work here at present. Mrs. MAMIE RICHARDSON HARRIS, the Executive Secretary of the Washington Council, gives full time and handles most of the details such as arranging meetings, securing volunteers for the picket line, and getting out the mails.

b7D

[redacted]

According to CONGRESS VIEW, the March, 1946, issue, which is the monthly publication for the National Negro Congress, the NNC is concentrating its efforts upon the following program:

1. Passage of the permanent FEPC bill in this season of Congress;

2. Job security for all Negro people;

3. A square deal for Negro veterans and merchant seamen;

4. Passage of the Wagner-Murray-Dingell Social Security Bill, the 00.65 minimum wage bill, and other measures on labor's legislative program;

5. An end to police brutality:

6. An end to lynch terror;

7. Freedom for colonial peoples;

8. Friendship with the Soviet Union as a necessary means of peace.

) (2-7-79)

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XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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61-6728-525 p 6

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

[redacted] Will, through [redacted] and [redacted] continue to follow the activities of the NNC and to report these activities at the appropriate time.

b7D

) (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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) (2-7-79)

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
May 16 - 1946

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Clavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Pease
Miss Gandy

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Director, FBI

Re: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
(DETROIT BRANCH)
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith is Form FD 142 requesting technical coverage of the Tenth Annual Convention to be held by Subject organization in Detroit, Michigan, May 31 through June 1, 1946. The requested coverage is to be maintained for two days.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

DWP:IBM
66-1457
cc: 100-1049
AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY
Enclosure

EX-18

61-6728-52

FBI
1 MAY 17 1946

FOR VICTORY
BUY
UNITED STATES
WAR
BONDS
AND
STAMPS

154

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAY 20 1946

TELETYPE

Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

CONF WASHINGTON 6 AND PHILA 3 FROM NEW YORK 20 5-15 PM

DIRECTOR AND SAC ROUTINE

(1)

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, IS-C. REFERENCE PHILADELPHIA TELETYPE MAY SEVENTEEN CONCERNING COVERAGE OF NATIONAL CONVENTION OF NNC IN DETROIT MAY THIRTY THROUGH JUNE SECOND. DETROIT PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED BY THIS OFFICE TO ARRANGE COVERAGE FOR THIS CONVENTION. NO COVERAGE PLANNED BY NEW YORK OFFICE FOR THIS CONVENTION.

CONROY

DETROIT ADVISED.

END

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THIS IS NY

NY R 3 PH

52 MAY 30 1946

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/7/79 BY SP-1 GSR/PH

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61-28-528
MAY 22 1946

[redacted]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAY 17 1946

TELETYPE

Rec 3:30 PM
no action
RDS
Wm. Gaston
Do Gaston

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Kerr
Mr. Sullivan

ml
R-15

WASHINGTON 11 AND NEW YORK 5 FROM PHILADELPHIA 5-17-46 U 7-50 PM EDT

DIRECTOR AND SACS NEW YORK AND DETROIT ROUTINE

NATIONEL NEGRO CONGRESS, INTERNAL SECURITY C. TENTH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION OF NNC SCHEDULED AT DETROIT, MAY THIRTY THROUGH JUNE SECOND. DETROIT AND NYC REQUESTED TO ADVISE IMMEDIATELY IF COVERAGE PLANNED BY YOUR OFFICE, SO THAT STEPS MAY BE TAKEN FOR POSSIBLE COVERAGE THROUGH THIS OFFICE IF NECESSARY. DETROIT ADVISED.

1612 6728 52

F B I
MAY 21 1946

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BOARDMAND

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 6/7/79 BY SP-1 GSK/RH

59 MAY 29 1946

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

New York 7, New York

declassified by SP-1 GSK/RH 6/7/79

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

April 18, 1946

Director, FBI

RE: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Submitted herewith are two photostatic copies of a letter concerning the 10th Anniversary Convention of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS which is to be held in Detroit, May 30 to June 2, 1946. Also submitted are two photostatic copies of the program for this convention. A photostatic copy of each is being submitted to the Detroit Office for informational purposes and the originals are being retained in the appropriate file in the New York Field Division.

This material was obtained [redacted] on [redacted] at the National Office of the National Negro Congress which is located at 307 Lenox Avenue, New York City.

67D

The Detroit Office is requested to arrange [redacted] coverage for this convention, if possible.

Very truly yours,

E. E. Conroy

E. E. CONROY
SAC

Enclosure (4)

cc: Detroit - Enc. (2) 40
NY 62-8399

JJP:FAL
100-3633

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES DEFENSE BONDS AND STAMPS

RECORDED & INDEXED

61-6727-530

EX-40

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 6/7/79 BY SP-1 GSK/RH

57 MAY 29 1946

DEATH BLOW TO JIM CROW

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

10th CONVENTION · DETROIT · MAY 30-JUNE 2

CALL TO ACTION . . .

SHINING STAR

Negro people of America! We have come up a long, steep road. It's a fight all the way. Where do we stand today? What shall we do now? How can we reach that goal of Freedom and Equality which has been our bright and shining star, guiding us through all the dark and bloody years of our march from bondage?

Today our boys are coming home from the war. Some of them will never return—they gave "their last full measure of devotion" in the fight to prevent the fascist powers from enslaving the world. To what kind of America have our veterans returned?

The recent hard-won economic and democratic gains of the Negro people are in grave danger! The reactionary enemies of the Negro people are on the march! Fascism is not dead!

SOLUTION?

Today in the giant organizations of labor—Packinghouse—UAW—UE—Steel—and in the Maritime and other Unions—the Negro trade unionist walks in newly won equality with his white brothers in the CIO and in progressive sections of the AFL. Peace can permit no retreat from these giant gains. They must be strengthened and broadened—towards the aim of smashing all vestiges of jimcrow in those industries which continue to discriminate. The Negro and white trade union member has a vast responsibility. Today the problem of discrimination cries for solution. Organized labor must take the lead in preventing monopoly capital from turning back the clock.

Four score and three years have passed since Lincoln's Emancipation was proclaimed. Seventeen more years will mark the First Century of Negro progress out of chattel slavery. Will that great Centennial Day dawn in glory upon a Negro people who are free and equal Americans?

NEW GLORY

World War II brought new glory to the fighting record of the Negro people. America's vast arsenal of production was augmented to full strength for the first time in our country's history—by a skilled labor force of thousands of Negro workers. They fought the good fight—in the auto shops of Detroit and Flint—in the steel blast furnaces of Pennsylvania—in the aircraft factories of California—in transport through the whole of 48 states—in mine and mill—as well as on the field of battle—they proved their worth. Any unorganized minority in the ranks of labor is a threat to the living standards of all American labor.

Today tens of thousands of Negro men and women are being thrown out of their jobs. Thousands more are being down-graded to the lowest paid and worst jobs.

EVIL

In Congress an unholy alliance of evil men, pro-fascist and reactionary Southern Democrats (Bilbo and Rankin) and Northern Republicans (Taft, Hickenlopper and Capehart) have ganged up against the FEPC Bill.

In Freeport, Long Island—*in the North*—two Negro brothers, veterans, were shot down in the streets, *murdered by the law.* In Columbia, Tennessee—*in the South*—the entire Negro community was terrorized, shot up and pillaged and two Negroes slain in jail, a *mob attack and lynching by the law.*

The corporations and big employers have launched a great conspiracy to drive down the living standards of the working people by attacking the trade unions, cutting wages and raising prices.

DRUMS

Worst of all: the reactionary forces of the nation are already beating the drums for World War III. They are answering the call of Churchill, the tory imperialist, to establish an Anglo-American rule of white supremacy over the entire world.

The Truman administration, which is joining hands with the British overlords of millions of colonial peoples, is allowing the Roosevelt program of world peace, security and expanding democracy to be cast aside.

A similar reaction set in after the Civil War. Under the leadership of Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman and other Negro heroes, the recently freed slaves rallied to demand their rights as citizens. A series of Negro People's Conventions was held throughout the country. They were a leading factor in defeating the administration of Andrew Johnson who betrayed the policies of Lincoln. United together with the progressive white Americans, North and South, they brought about the progressive period of Reconstruction. Result—the only democratic state governments the South has ever known were elected.

WITHOUT LABEL

Today "made in U. S." rifles—*without label*—are sputtering out their grim song of death—against the Indonesian people. U. S., British and Dutch imperialism have clasped hands in a united program of oppression. Likewise in India, the Middle East and Africa. The colonial peoples of our earth need help. Our help—your help—for today they are rising and fighting—in heed to history's urgent burning need. The peoples of America must also help. The fight against Jim Crow at home is a strike at colonial oppression everywhere.

NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT! HERE IS THE WAY! We must mobilize the militant millions of our people for mass action on picket lines, and at the ballot box—to defeat the enemies of freedom and security.

We call upon all local councils of the National Negro Congress; churches, fraternal, civic and social organizations; trade unions and all other progressive organizations of our country, to send delegates and fraternal delegates to the Tenth Anniversary Convention of the National Negro Congress in Detroit, May 30th to June 2nd. Let us come together, organize, and plan a program of action.

Send in attached registration at once.

Draft Program

ELEVEN POINTS FOR FREEDOM

1. Equal jobs and economic security for the Negro people. Immediate enactment of a permanent FEPC.
2. Develop and strengthen the working unity between the Negro people and the trade union movement. Full support to the drive for organization of Negro and white workers in the South.
3. Passage of the Wagner-Murray-Dingell Social Security Bill, the 65c minimum wage bill, and other measures on labor's legislative program.
4. Passage of the Anti-Poll Tax Bill.
5. An end to police and armed violence against Negro citizens and organized labor.
6. Pass the anti-lynch bill.
7. Full application of GI Bill of Rights for Negro veterans and merchant seamen without discrimination.
8. Adequate housing, health protection and education without segregation or discrimination.
9. Protection of rights of Negro agricultural and farm labor and their rights to organize.
10. End discrimination in the armed forces.
11. Freedom for colonial peoples and American support to principles of UNO. U. S. friendship with the Soviet Union as a necessary means to peace.

Program

THURSDAY, MAY 30th — DORIE MILLER DAY

REGISTRATION AND HOUSING

10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. Meeting of National Board and appointment of working committees for Convention.

5:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M. Opening, Detroit Art Exhibit Auspices: New Masses and Detroit Council, NNC.

8:00 P.M. Keynote address to delegates and observers by prominent labor figures.

FRIDAY, MAY 31st — HARRIET TUBMAN DAY

11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. Opening session.

2:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M. Panel Discussions.

8:00 P.M. Negro Freedom Rally.

SATURDAY, JUNE 1st — CRISPUS ATTUCKS DAY

10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M. Reports of convention committees and panel reports.

8:00 P.M. Dance and Entertainment.

SUNDAY, JUNE 2nd — FREDERICK DOUGLASS DAY

11:00 A.M. - Noon Non-lectarian Services.

1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. Closing business session. Election of officers and of National Board.

5:00 P.M. Adjournment.

CONVENTION PANELS

- Jobs and economic security
- Civil Rights
- Political Action
- World peace and democracy
- Trade Union Action
- Veterans — Military Equality
- Women
- Youth
- Council Building
- Negro History, Culture and Education

PARTIAL LIST OF SPONSORS

(Organizations listed for identification only.)

JAMES EGERT ALLEN
Chairman, N. Y. State Cont. NAACP Branches
New York

S. L. M. BARLOW
Forum for Democracy
New York

HARRY BRIDGES
President, Int'l Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union, CIO
California

HUGH BRYSON
Vice-President, Marine Cooks & Stewards, CIO
California

SOPHONISBA P. BRECKENRIDGE
School of Social Service, Univ. of Chicago
Illinois

E. P. BURKE
President, Marine Cooks & Stewards, CIO
California

GWENDOLYN BENNETT
Director, George Washington Carver School
New York

OLIVER BOUTTE
Port Agent, National Maritime Union, CIO
California

HON. JANE M. BOLIN
Justice, Domestic Relations Court
New York

DR. CHARLOTTE HAWKINS BROWN
Pres., Palmer Memorial Inst.
North Carolina

RICHARD CAMPBELL
President, Local 2, ILWU, CIO
California

LOUIS COLMAN
Secretary, Int'l Labor Defense
New York

CHARLES COLLINS
Vice-President, Hotel and Restaurant Employees Int'l Alliance, AFL
New York

HON. EUGENE P. CONNOLLY
City Councilman
New York

MATT CRAWFORD
Asst. Director, San Francisco Council for Civic Unity
California

EARL B. DICKERSON
Alderman
Illinois

HON. BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, Jr.
City Councilman
New York

FRANK MARSHALL DAVIS
Associated Negro Press
Illinois

JAMES A. DOMBROWSKI
Southern Conference for Human Welfare
Tennessee

DR. ARNOLD DONAWA
Chairman, North Harlem Dental Association
New York

AARON DOUGLAS
Fisk University
Tennessee

MURIEL DRAPER
Chairman, Committee of Women, National Council for American-Soviet Friendship
New York

WALTER K. ECKLUND
President, Sacramento CIO Council
California

SEBA ELDRIDGE
Univ. of Kansas
Kansas

ARTHUR H. FAUSET
President, United People's Action Committee
Pennsylvania

ABRAM FLAXER
President, State, County & Municipal Workers, CIO
New York

JAMES W. FORD
National Board, NNC
New York

WALTER FRISBIE
President, Indiana Industrial Union Council
Indiana

REV. STEPHEN H. FRITCHMAN
Editor, Christian Register
Massachusetts

DAISY S. GEORGE
Business Agent, Local 6, HREIA, AFL
New York

ELINOR S. GIMBEL
Chairman, Congress of American Women
New York

LOUIS GOLDBLATT
Secretary-Treasurer, ILWU, CIO
California

FOWLER HARPER
Indiana Univ. Law School
Indiana

WILLIAM HARRISON
Associate Editor, Boston Chronicle
Massachusetts

DONALD HENDERSON
President, Food, Tobacco & Agricultural Workers, CIO
Pennsylvania

WILLIAM R. HENDERSON
CIO Sub-Regional Director
Arkansas

LYNDON HENRY
Furriers Joint Council
New York

REV. CHARLES A. HILL
Michigan

LANGSTON HUGHES
Poet
New York

HON. STANLEY M. ISAACS
City Councilman
New York

DAVE JENKINS
Director, California Labor School
California

DR. DAVID D. JONES
President, Bennett College
North Carolina

JAMES JONES
Business Agent, Local 2, ILWU, CIO
California

ADA B. JACKSON
Chairman, Brooklyn Interracial Assembly
New York

HON. ANNA M. KROSS
Magistrate
New York

ROCKWELL KENT
President, Int'l Workers O
New York

JOHN HOWARD LAWSON
Playwright
California

CANADA LEE
Actor
New York

REV. WILLIAM HOWARD
Minister
New York

PATRICK S. NERTNEY
President, Detroit Nat'l Lawyers Guild
Michigan

SAMUEL J. NOVICK
Electronics Corporation
New York

BOYD E. PAYTON
President, Maryland-D. C. Industrial Union Counc
Virginia

DR. CHARLES A. PETIONI
President, West Indies Na Council
New York

MERVYN RATHBORNE
Secretary, California Stat Industrial Union Counc
California

DR. IRA DE A. REID
Dep't of Sociology, Atlant
Georgia

J. R. ROBERTSON
Vice-President, ILWU, CI
California

WILLIAM JAY SCHIEFFELIN
Civic Leader
New York

C. LeBRON SIMMONS
Ass't Prosecuting Att'y Wayne County
Michigan

CHARLES N. SMOLIAKOFF
Director, Florida State C Council
Florida

HENRY WINSTON
National Committee, Co munist Party
New York

REGISTRATION

THE FOLLOWING WOULD LIKE TO BE REGISTERED:

Name .....

Address .....

Organization ..... Nat'l ( ) State ( ) City

State whether Delegate ( ) Fraternal Delegate ( ) Visitor ( ) Observer

(Use additional sheet for other registrations)

Enclosed please find $.....for registration (Fee: $1.00 per registrant).

Enclosed please find $.....as contribution for building the National Negro Co

Return this application to:

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS • 307 Lenox Avenue • New York 27,

DETROIT
MAY 30
to
JUNE 2

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRES

307 LENOX AVENUE
New York 27, N. Y.

114 ERSKI
Detroit 1, MI

MAX YERGAN
President
REVELS CAYTON
Executive Secretary
FERDINAND SMITH
Treasurer
THELMA M. DALE
Field Secretary
DOROTHY K. FUNN
Legislative Director
EDWARD E. STRONG
On Leave in the Armed For

April 10, 1946

Dear Friend:

Enclosed is the Call to the Tenth Anniversary Convention of the National Negro Congress, to be convened in Detroit May 30th through June 2nd. Together with the sponsors of the Convention listed on the Call, the National Negro Congress invites your participation in this gathering.

The degree of social, economic and political freedom of the Negro people is at all times a yardstick of American democracy. Our Convention is dedicated to clipping the gap between the Negro people and other Americans, and advancing the liberties and living standards of the entire people.

It will evolve a program which in helping to deal the death blow to Jimcrow in America will strengthen our total fight for peace and democracy.

We hope that you will at once bring up in your organization the selection of delegates to this Convention. Advance registrations, at the earliest possible date, will be appreciated. (See Registration, back page, enclosed Call.)

Very sincerely yours,

Max Yergan
President

Revels Cayton
Executive Secretary

uopwa
19-102
Enclosure

Federal Bureau of Investigation
CONFIDENTIAL
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
May 16 - 1946

RECOMMENDATION FOR INSTALLATION OF
TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE

Re: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
(DETROIT BRANCH)
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
~~TECHNICAL~~ Microphone SURVEILLANCE

1. Name and address of Subject:

Tenth Annual Convention of NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS to be held in Detroit, Michigan, May 31 to June 2, 1946, at Rackham Memorial Building, 100 Farnsworth Street, Detroit, Michigan.

2. Location of technical operations:

[redacted] b7E

3. Other technical surveillances of same Subject:

A technical surveillance is presently being maintained on the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS telephone number, CAdillac 4993, at 114 Erskine Street, Detroit, Michigan.

4. Cost and manpower involved:

[redacted] b7E

5. Adequacy of security:

One hundred per cent.

6. Type of case involved:

Instant case concerns the internal security of the country through the efforts of the Communist Party to spread its doctrine and policies through the medium of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS. CONFIDENTIAL

RECORDED 61-6728-531
MAY 21 1946

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

COPIES DESTROYED
R 16 4 APR 24 1964

CLASSIFIED AND
EXTENDED BY SP-1 65K/LH 6/7/79
REASON FOR EXTENSION
FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW FOR
DECLASSIFICATION 6/7/89

CONFIDENTIAL

7. Connection or status of Subject in the case:

8. Specific information being sought:

It is desired to ascertain the identities of the speakers at this convention, the subjects which they discuss, and the subject matter thereof.

9. Reasons for believing the specific information will be obtained by the technical surveillance:

10. Importance of case and Subject:

The New York Field Division, which is origin in this matter, has requested coverage of instant convention, which locally the Communist Party is utilizing the NNC as a front for its activities and propaganda and it is felt that complete coverage of instant convention will result in the disclosure of future attempts on the part of the Communist Party to use the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS for its own purposes and as a medium of disseminating its propaganda.

11. Possibilities of obtaining desired information by other means:

The possibility exists of having informants submit reports concerning the events taking place at subject convention and the further possibility of having an Agent attend the meetings under pretext. In both instances it is felt that the coverage made possible through technical surveillance would be more adequate and in the matter of having an Agent attend under pretext, it should be noted that the delegates will be largely colored and any white person more than noticeable aside from the necessity of the calling of attention to the person attending through the obtaining of credentials at the time of registration which would be necessary in order to obtain admittance to the meeting. The Communist clubs in Detroit are seemingly becoming increasingly aware of persons attending their functions in behalf of some investigative agency and it is felt that the technical coverage will obviate the necessity of any Agent being present and remove the danger of his identity being disclosed.

12. Risks of detection involved:

None

13. Probable length of technical surveillance:

Two days

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

14. Request made for ~~technical~~ microphone surveillance by any outside agency:

15. Remarks:

b1

[redacted] (C)

16. Recommendation of Assistant Director: (It is obvious that the request here is for a microphone surveillance rather than a technical surveillance.) In view of the foregoing information and in light of the fact that the National Negro Congress is being revitalized by the Communist Party to serve as the main front for work among Negroes, I concur with the Detroit Office's recommendation. If this is approved there is attached a teletype ~~Recommendation of Assistants to the Director:~~ directed to the Detroit Office granting authority for the installation provided full security is assured.

17. Recommendation of Assistants to the Director:

CONFIDENTIAL

) (2-7-79)

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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director

FROM : D. M. Ladd

SUBJECT: FOR TEL-MIC SURVEILLANCE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
DETROIT BRANCH
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

DATE: May 17, 1946

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Lease
Miss Beahn
Miss Gandy

The Detroit Division has advised that an additional telephone with an extension is being made by the National Negro Congress at its headquarters at 114 Erskine Street, Detroit, Michigan, on May 18, 1946, according to information received by the Detroit Office on May 16, 1946. The purpose of this additional telephone will be to handle calls of important figures in Detroit in connection with the 10th Annual Convention of the National Negro Congress to be held May 31, to June 2, 1946.

Upon the basis of a request from Detroit on January 30, 1946, a technical surveillance was authorized by the Attorney General, based upon the National Negro Congress domination of District #7 of the Communist Party. If adequate coverage is to be maintained on this organization, it appears essential to also cover this new telephone.

RECOMMENDATION:

Since previous authority to cover the National Negro Congress by a technical surveillance has been received from the Attorney General, no additional request to him is necessary. It is recommended, therefore, that authority be given to cover this telephone [redacted] 67E

Since the new telephone is being installed tomorrow, May 18, 1946, Detroit has requested telephonic reply, and it is also recommended that this authorization be furnished telephonically to Detroit.

1:10 pm 5-17-46 Mr. Guerin advised to go ahead with installation provided full security assured. Requested to advise time of installation, place monitored from, etc. CAD

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DATE 6/7/79 BY SP-1 GSK/RH

Ed 5/17/46

JDD:IGS

61-6728-533

EX-10

RECORDED

MAY 23 1946

56 MAY 31 1946

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

FILE NO. 100-1524

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	5/20/46	4/6, 4/8; 5/15-16/46	[redacted] JFG:hmm b7C

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: National Negro Congress headquarters located at 4619 South Parkway, BERTHA P. TIPTON continues as Executive Secretary of Chicago Council of National Negro Congress. Offices of subject organization used by United Negro and Allied Veterans of America, reported Communist dominated organization. Prior to national convention of UNAVA, held in Chicago April 6 to April 7, 1946, BERTHA TIPTON endorsed People's Housing Conference openly sponsored by South Side Section of the Communist Party, District 8.

NO JUN 15 STATISTICS

- P -

Reference: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated March 8, 1946 at Chicago, Illinois. b7C

Letter from Detroit dated March 21, 1946.

Details: At Chicago, Illinois

b7D

[redacted] reported that National Negro Congress, Chicago Council, continue to have their headquarters at 4619 South Parkway, and that BERTHA P. TIPTON continues in office as executive secretary.

b7D

[redacted] reported on April 5, that veterans from various cities attending the national convention at which the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America were to be organized, registered all delegates to the convention at the offices of the National Negro Congress. BERTHA TIPTON assisted

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: R. McSwain SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

61-6728 32

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(5) - Bureau
3 - New York
2 - Detroit
3 - Chicago

F B I
1 MAY 28 1946

EX-23

COPY IN FILE

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52 JUN 7 1946

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the office administration in the registration of the delegates. [redacted] b7D

Referenced letter from Detroit reflected that ARTHUR BOMMAN, Midwest Director of the National Negro Congress, COLEMAN YOUNG also actively affiliated with the administration of the National Negro Congress in Detroit, as well as JOHN SIMMONS, recently released from the army was active in the National Negro Congress. According to referenced letter, the above three were to be delegates to the Chicago convention of the UNAVA. [redacted] COLEMAN YOUNG was recently discharged from the army [redacted] had organized discharged veterans in Detroit. JOHN SIMMONS, who was also present at the convention [redacted] was placed on the Labor and Jobs panel, with assistance from the Detroit and Illinois delegations. SIMMONS and YOUNG worked closely with BOMMAN who was observed [redacted] to be present when final decision on vital issues before the convention were decided. b7D

[redacted] a leaflet advertising the "People's Housing Conference," to be held on Sunday, April 28, 1946 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Metropolitan Community Church, Forty-first and South Parkway, Chicago. It was stated in the leaflet that the South Side Section of the Communist Party were open sponsors of the People's Housing Conference. It was also requested that all communications should be addressed to Room 29, 306 East Forty-third Street, Chicago 15, Illinois, which is the headquarters of the South Side Section of the Communist Party. On the rear of the leaflet appeared a list of endorsers of the conference. Among the list appeared the name of BERTHA P. TIPTON, National Negro Congress. [redacted] b7D

PENDING

*

Chicago File No. 100-1524

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE CHICAGO FIELD DIVISION

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Will maintain contact with [redacted] for specific information and evidence showing Communist control and domination of the National Negro Congress.

PENDING

STD

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York 7, New York

declassified by SP-1 GSK/RH 6/7/79

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

May 24, 1946

Director, FBI

RE: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

On May 20, 1946, [redacted] a copy of the Program of the Tenth Anniversary Convention of the National Negro Congress to be held May 30th to June 2nd, 1946, at Detroit, Michigan. [redacted] obtained this program at the National Office of the National Negro Congress, 307 Lenox Avenue, New York City on May 20, 1946.

A photostatic copy of this program is being submitted to the Bureau and the Detroit Field Office with a copy of this letter, since this letter sets out the Committees and Panels for the convention which were not set out in the program previously sent to the Bureau and Detroit by letter dated April 18, 1946. The original copy of this program is being retained in subject case file in the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY
SAC

Enclosure (1)

cc: Detroit - Enc. (1)

JJP:FAL
100-3633

cc: 62-8397

AIR MAIL

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES DEFENSE BONDS AND STAMPS

DATE 6/7/79 BY SP-1 GSK/RH

RECORDED

INDEXED

EX-23

52 JUN 4 1946

EX-23

TENTH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

May 30th - June 2nd Detroit, Michigan

PROGRAM

THURSDAY, MAY 30th

From 9:00 a.m.	Registration of Delegates and Housing Assignments	Main Ballroom 114 Erskine
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Meeting, National Executive Board NNC; Appointment of Convention Committees: Presiding, Credentials, Resolutions, Nominations, Rules	Lucy Thurman Y.W.C.A.
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Opening, Detroit Art Exhibit	Urban League House
8:00 p.m. - 11:00	Delegates Assembly	Bethel AME Church 583 Frederick

FRIDAY, MAY 31st

10:00 a.m. - 12:00	Opening Session	Rackham Building Ransworth & Woodwar
10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Organizational report by Revel[illegible]ayton, Executive Secreta National Negro Congress;	
10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Report of National Executive Board on working committees for the Convention; Action of the Convention on said report, including additional nominations for the committees; Election of same.	
11:15 a.m. - 12: noon	State Caucases	
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Panels: I - Jobs & Economic Security; II - Health & Housing; III - Civil Rights; IV - Farm Problems	
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Commissions on Special Problems: Veterans, Women, Youth; Political Action, Trade Unions, Culture & Education; World Peace & Democracy	

Friday, May 31st (continued)		
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Conference Committees	State Caucuses
8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.	NEGRO FREEDOM RALLY	Cass Technical H. S. West Vernor & 2nd Blvd.
SATURDAY, JUNE 1st		
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon	Council Building	Backham Building
1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Reports of Convention Committees Special Commissions Panels	
SUNDAY, JUNE 2nd		
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon	Church Services	St. Antoine Y.M.C.A.
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Closing Business Session:	
	Report of Special Committees of Council Building	
	Election of Officers & Executive Board	
	Unfinished Business	
5:00 p.m.	Adjournment	

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19-102

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAY 24 1946

TELETYPE

FBI DETROIT 5-24-46 5-15 PM ESU

DIRECTOR - URGENT [redacted]

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, IS-C. [redacted]

[redacted] LOCAL BRANCH NNC HAS DRAWN UP A PETITION TO BE PRESENTED TO THE UNITED NATIONS TO REQUEST ACTION ON PART OF THAT ORGANIZATION AGAINST SEGREGATION OF, AND DISCRIMINATION AGAINST THE U. S. NEGROES. LEBRON SIMMONS, LOCAL PRESIDENT OF NNC, FURNISHED THIS PETITION TO NED SMOKLER, OF LOCAL UNIT, NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD, FOR HIM TO OBTAIN SIGNATURES OF LEADING ATTORNEYS HERE AND THEREAFTER TO FORWARD SAME TO NEW YORK CITY FOR SIGNATURE CIRCULATION THERE. [redacted] REVELS CAYTON, NATIONAL PRESIDENT, NNC, ADVISED THELMA DALE, FIELD REPRESENTATIVE, NATIONAL NNC BODY, THAT INSTANT PETITION WILL BE THE PRIMARY ISSUE AT FORTHCOMING TENTH ANNUAL NNC CONVENTION SCHEDULED DETROIT, MAY THIRTY THROUGH JUNE TWO NEXT. ABOVE SUBMITTED FOR INFORMATION OF BUREAU.

GUERIN

END

5-17 PM OK FBI WASH DC MFT

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61-6728-536

FBI
19 JUN 4 1946

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61-6126-5

RECORDED May 28, 1946 SPECIAL MESSENGER

Mr. Frederick B. Lyon
Chief
Division of Foreign Activity Correlation
State Department
Washington, D. C.

1/EX-33

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

The captioned organization, which is reliably reported to be under Communist domination, is holding its Tenth Annual Convention in Detroit, Michigan, May 30 through June 2, 1946. In connection with the forthcoming convention, a reliable source has advised that the Detroit Branch of the National Negro Congress has drawn up a petition for discussion at the convention. This petition, it is contemplated, will be presented to the United Nations Organization to request action on its part against the segregation of, and discrimination against the United States Negroes.

It is reported that the Detroit Unit of the National Lawyers Guild has possibly assisted in obtaining signatures for the petition which is scheduled to be forwarded to New York City where additional signatures will be obtained.

The foregoing is submitted for your information and appropriate consideration. In the event additional pertinent details are received they will be brought to your attention.

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. Tolson
. E. A. Tamm
. Clegg
. Coffey
. Glavin
. Ladd
. Nichols
. Rosen
. Tracy
. Carson
. Egan
. Hendon
. Pennington
. Quinn Tamm
. Nease
Miss Gandy

EHW:elk

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
MAY 28 1946 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

59 JUN 26 1946

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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: June 5, 1946

FROM : SAC Detroit

SUBJECT: NATIONAL NEGRO COUNCIL
DETROIT BRANCH
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

AIR MAIL

The Tenth Anniversary Annual Convention of the captioned organization was held in this city May 30 through June 2, 1946.

A petition drawn up by the Executive Board of the NNC for presentation to the Economic and Social Council of the UNO requesting action on the part of that group to eliminate discriminatory practices and segregation which are forced upon the American negroes in this country was presented to the delegates who voted that this petition be presented as designed.

A copy of this petition was obtained by this office and is being furnished herewith to the Bureau for its information.

Enclosure:

DWP:BJM
100-1049

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1 JUN 6 1946

EX-25

OPPRESSION OF THE AMERICAN N D: THE FACTS

(Prepared by Dr. Herbert Aptheker* for the Tenth Anniversary Convention of the National Negro Congress, Detroit, Michigan, May 30 - June 2)

In the United States of America there are over thirteen million human beings restricted to a second-class citizenship, and subjected to a brutal system of oppression and discrimination based upon the inhuman, unscientific, Fascist theory of "racism".

These statements shall be established by citing data obtained, in their entirety, directly from official publications of the United States Government.

POPULATION:

The United States census of 1940 showed that of a total Negro population of 12,865,518, almost ten millions (9,904,619) lived in the South, 2,790,193 lived in the North, and 170,708 lived in the West.

A former Governor of South Carolina, and a member of the Senate of the United States for many years, Mr. Cole Blease, in speaking to his constituents, said:[1] "God made that man the Negro to be your servant. The Negro was meant to be a hewer of wood and a drawer of water." While this is blasphemous as to the Lord's intentions, it is accurate as to the intentions, and accomplishments, of the class for which Mr. Blease spoke.

OCCUPATIONS:

The facts are that, in 1940, there were 4,479,069 Negro wage earners in the United States (1,542,273 of them women), and that the vast majority were "hewers of wood and drawers of water." Well over half (55%) were engaged in the two lowest paid and least protected of all occupations; that is, over one million (1,003,508) were domestic service workers, and almost one and a half million (1,447,052) were agricultural workers. Another half million (522,229) were engaged in "other service" work, and still half a million more (464,195) were "operatives." This left a total of about 370,000 individuals to make up the manager, proprietor, professional and semi-professional, clerical, sales, foremen and craftsmen groups combined.[2]

In 1940, seven out of every ten employed Negroes were engaged in unskilled work, and 94 out of every 100 employed Negroes followed manual pursuits. The proportion of unskilled workers amongst the Negro people was 35% greater than amongst the whites![3] Of course, these same census reports demonstrate that Negroes can, and do, perform all the functions of modern civilization, from accountant to architect, from editor to engineer, from physician to physicist,

*Ph. D Columbia U., Member American Historical Society

(more)

The medium through which the United Nations approaches the specific problem of racial oppression and protection of minorities is the Economic and Social Council. In turn, it is through the Commission on Human Rights, a specialized Commission of the Economic and Social Council, that the functions of the United Nations upon this subject are to be exercised. The basis for this delegation of function is provided in Article 68, in the Charter of the United Nations, which states:

> "The Economic and Social Council shall set up commissions in economic and social fields and for the promotion of human rights, and such other commissions as may be required for the performance of its functions."

Reference is further made to the Report of the Preparatory Commission of the United Nations, Chapter III, Sec. 4:

> "Considerations and Recommendations Concerning the Organization of the Economic and Social Council:
> 15. Commission on Human Rights
> In general the functions of the Commission would be to assist the Council to carry out its responsibility under the Charter to promote human rights. The studies and recommendations of the Commission would encourage the acceptance of higher standards in this field and help to check and eliminate discrimination and other abuses.
> 16. In particular the work of the Commission might be directed towards the following objects:
> a) formulation of an international bill of rights.
> b) formulation of recommendations for an international declaration or convention on such matters as civil liberties, status of women, freedom of information.
> c) protection of minorities.
> d) prevention of discrimination on grounds of race, sex, language or religion; and
> e) any matters within the field of human rights considered likely to impair the general welfare or friendly relations among nations.
> 17. Studies and recommendations would be made and information and other services provided at the request of the General Assembly, or of the Economic and Social Council, whether on its own initiative or at the request of the Security Council or of the Trusteeship Council."

Reference is further made to the Report of the Committee on the Organization of the Economic and Social Council which met in London during February, 1946 and proposed the following resolution:

> "Sec. A. The Economic and Social Council, being charged under the Charter with the responsibility of promoting universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion, and requiring advice and assistance to enable it to discharge this responsibility; Establishes a Commission on Human Rights.
> 2. The work of the Commission shall be directed towards submitting proposals, recommendations and reports to the Council regarding:
> a) formulation of an international bill of rights.
> b) formulation of recommendations for an international declaration or convention on such matters as civil liberties, status of women, freedom of information.
> c) protection of minorities.
> d) prevention of discrimination on grounds of race, sex, language or religion.
> 3. The Commission shall make studies and recommendations and provide information and other services at the request of the Economic and Social Council.

(more)

PETITION

To The Economic and Social Council of the United ~~States~~ Nations

A PETITION on behalf of the National Negro Congress of the United States of America for the elimination of political, economic and social discrimination against Negroes in the United States of America

I The Subject Matter of the Petition

The National Negro Congress, the petitioner herein, is a national organization in the United States of America, within the definition set forth in Article 71, of the Charter of the United Nations.

The subject matter of this petition is concerned with the "protection of minorities" and the "prevention of discrimination on grounds of race", within the purview of the Report of the Preparatory Commission and the Report of the Committee on the Organization of the Economic and Social Council, both cited hereinafter.

II The Jurisdiction of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations

The basis and scope of the relation of the United Nations to the problem of racial oppression and the protection of minorities has been definitively stated in various official declarations and reports of the United Nations.

1. Reference: Preamble to Charter of the United Nations.

" We the people of the United Nations determined to reaffirm faith in fundamental rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small...."

2. Reference: Article I, Sec. 3, Charter of the United Nations

" The Purposes of the United Nations are: To achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion,"

3. Reference: Article 13, Sec. 1(b), Charter of the United Nations

" The General Assembly shall initiate studies and make recommendations for the purpose of: promoting international cooperation in the economic, social, cultural, educational and health fields, and assisting in the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion."

4. Reference: Article 55, Sec. 1(c), Charter of the United Nations

" With a view to the creation of conditions of stability and well-being which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, the United Nations shall promote: Universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion."

5. Reference: Article 62, Sec. 2, Charter of the United Nations

" It (The Economic and Social Council) may make recommendations for the purpose of promoting respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all."

(more)

from surgeon to psychologist. Science has demonstrated, without any question, that the idea of inferiority is a deliberately concocted myth, so that these data substantiate nothing but the wholesale oppression of a myriad of peoples.

And not only are they, as a people, largely confined to the poorest paying occupations, but within these occupations they are paid less than others. This may be proven not only by every-day observation, and by official statistics, but it is the overtly expressed program of the oppressors. Thus, for example, a publication of the University of Kentucky declared, in 1935: "An additional argument in favor of the salary differential between Negro and white teachers is the general tradition of the South that negroes and whites are not to be paid equivalent salaries for equivalent work"(italics added).

FAMILY INCOME:

The earnings of the Negro people mirror their subordinate occupational status. As has been shown, the occupation engaging the greatest number of Negroes is agricultural work, confined, almost entirely, to the South. The family income of rural-farm families with a farm laborer as head of the household equalled in 1939 (last year for which complete official figures are available)[5] $363 for the entire United States and $295 for the South. The respective figures for the white and the Negro in the South were $337 as compared with $254, and it may be added that over forty percent of these Negroes had a total yearly family income of less than $200.

An official survey of the over-all family incomes of America (for 1935-36) disclosed that the average (median) yearly income per family in the rural South (including not only money income, but also income in kind and the imputed value of housing) was, for whites, $1,100 and for Negroes $480, or 44% as high. In Southern cities the respective figures were $1570 and $525, the Negro family thus obtaining one-third that of the white, while in North Central cities (population 100,000 and over) white families averaged $1,720 and Negro, $1,095.[6] The meaning of these figures, in human terms, will be somewhat more apparent when it is realized that, as of March, 1935, the cost of a WPA emergency budget for a manual worker with a wife and two young children in Columbia, South Carolina was $845, in Mobile, Alabama, $815, in Atlanta, Georgia, $911, and in Columbus, Ohio, $940.[7]

As of 1940, two-thirds of the Negro families in the United States earned less than $750 a year, and this was true notwithstanding the fact that about 2 in every 5 Negro women were in the labor force, in contrast to 2 in every 8 white women.[8] More, too, it is important to note that the government, itself, declared[9]

(more)

The Charter of the United Nations further makes provision for direct consultation between the Economic and Social Council and non-governmental organizations in connection with its functions. Reference is made to Article 71, Charter of the United Nations:

> "The Economic and Social Council may make suitable arrangements for consultation with ono-governmental organizations which are concerned with matters within its competence. Such arrangements may be made with international organizations and, where appropriate, with national organizations after consultation with the Member of the United Nations concerned." (underlining ours)

III Proof in Support of the Petition

The evidence in support of this petition is set forth in full in the Document attached hereto and made a part hereof entitled, "The Oppression of the American Negro: The Facts", which conclusively establishes that a condition has existed throughout the United States of America during its entire history and prevails at this time, of the political, economic, and social discrimination against Negroes because of their race and color; resulting in the denial of equal democratic rights to 13,000,000 Negro citizens and requiring the consideration of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

Wherefore, your petioner respectfully prays that the Economic and Social Council through its Commission on Human Rights or otherwise;

1. Make such studies as it may deem necessary of the conditions herein described as they exist in the United States of America, pertaining to political, economic and social discrimination against Negroes because of their race and color.

2. Make such recommendations and take such other actions as it may deem proper with respect to the facts herein stated, to the end that "higher standards" in the field of human rights may be achieved in the United States of America and "discrimination and other abuses" on the grounds of race and color, may be "checked and eliminated".

3. Take such other and further steps as may seem just and proper to the end that the oppression of the American Negro be brought to an end.

Respectfully submitted,

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
by

Dr. Max Yergen
President

Revels Cayton
Executive Secretary for
the National Board

uopwa26cio

that a city family of three needed, in 1941, an income of $1,475 "to cover current living expenditures", almost exactly twice that actually obtained by most of its urban Negro citizens!

HOUSING:

These statistics represent, of course, food, homes, life and death. Official publications have summed up some of the facts in a few succinct lines and figures. Thus, for housing, we are told:[10] "...most Negroes have been unable to rent or own decent, safe, and sanitary houses in which to live and bring up their children."

Figures will make this concrete. In the United States, in 1940, there were 3,295,406 dwelling units for Negroes. Of these over one million (1,082,128) "needed major repairs," and almost two million (1,908,100) had no running water. Over twice as many Negro homes as white (35.1% and 16.3%) needed major repairs, and almost three times as many Negro homes as white (62.0% and 26.0%) had no running water. Twice as many white homes as Negro homes (82.9% and 43%) had electricity. All these figures are, of course, very much worse in the South, where the bulk of the Negro citizens live. Thus, to illustrate, it may be mentioned that well over 70% of all Negro homes in that area have neither electricity nor running water.[11]

HEALTH:

This oppression cripples and kills. Sickness, which incapacitates for a minimum of one week, is 40% more common to the Negro than to the white. In 1940, while 46 out of every 1,000 white children born alive did not live to reach their first birthdays, 85 Negro children died during the same period. And the proportion of deaths for children from one to four years of age is almost twice as high for the Negro as for the white, while the maternal death rate is more than twice as high. Finally, while a white man could expect, in 1940, to reach almost 63 years, the Negro man's life expectancy was 52; and the figures for white and Negro women were 67 and 55 respectively. These figures, let this be perfectly clear, are "no more than a difference of mortality for different economic classes", they do not represent some innate "racial" characteristic. Moreover, as the Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor showed, the infant mortality rate for Negro families whose fathers earned less than $450 per year was practically the same (indeed, a little lower) than that for white families of a similar economic status.[13]

EDUCATION:

The attempted degradation of this entire people includes, and is concentrate

(here)

upon, unequal educational opportunities. This fact of undemocratic education may be demonstrated in dozens of different sets of official figures issued by all or some of those seventeen States where separate - Jim Crow - systems are required by law, and where the majority of the Negro people live.

The latest compilation coming from the United States Office of Education states:[14] "Data for any given year show the wide differences which still exist in many States between educational opportunities for white and Negro children."

All phases and facets show this discrimination. Thus, for 1941-42, while the load per white teacher was about 28 pupils, it was 36 for the Negro teacher; while the average number of days a white child attended school was 144, it was 128 for the Negro; the average annual salary for the instructional staff (including supervisors, principals, and teachers) in Alabama was $923 for whites and $458 for Negroes, in Arkansas $740 and $441, in Florida $1,282 and $671, in Georgia $961 and $460, in Louisiana $1,303 and $547, in Mississippi $712 and $226, in South Carolina $1,038 and $465, in Virginia $1,133 and $765. The eleven Southern States that reported its expenditures on transporting Negro and white children to the schools spent a total of $1,329,095 for Negroes, while the single state of Alabama spent $1,994,018 to transport its white children. In this regard, South Carolina, whose Negro children number very nearly the same as the white children ~~(212,630 and 262,~~ 580) spent $1,222,226 for transporting the latter and $6,691 for the former! Again, for "promotion of health" the State of Georgia spent $30,426 on its white children and $1,571 on its Negro children, though the latter equal well over half the former in total numbers.[15] In terms of figures, one may summarize by stating that the level of support of the median classroom unit per year in the South for Negro schools equalled from $400-$499, and for white schools it equalled $1,100-$1,199 - and some people still prattle about "separate but equal" facilities![16]

The tragedy behind these statistics was forcefully brought before the American people during the late War. The percentage of draft registrants deferred because of educational deficiency (illiteracy) from May 15 to September 14, 1941 was eleven times greater for Negroes than for whites! This was, of course, the result of the educational system provided for them, and of nothing else. Thus, within fifteen States the rejection rates for Negroes was lower than the total percentage rate of white rejections, and in twenty-six Northern States, the rejection rates for Negroes were less than they were for the whites in ten of the Southern States.[17]

This inequality of opportunity exists not only in elementary education, but also, and to an even greater degree, in higher education. This becomes crystal-clear when one realizes that, in 1940 the median school year completed by the Negro, throughout the country, was 5.7 while it was 8.4 for the white. Over 40% of the

(more)

total Negro population, as of 1940, had been forced to complete no more than four years of formal education, as compared to 13% of the white population. The abominable situation has been summarized, officially, in this sentence:[18] "There is a definite lack of availability of higher educational facilities for Negroes in those States maintaining separate schools."

OTHER PUBLIC SERVICES:

- Privileges and rights, other than education, normally associated with full American citizenship, are likewise very largely denied the Negro. Thus, to quote again the summary remarks of a government publication:[19] "...in cities paving, lighting, sewerage service and police protection often cease where the Negro residence section begins... In many areas there is no hospital service of any kind available to Negroes, and the medical and nursing service is often wholly inadequate if not lacking altogether." And, in many sections of the nation Negroes are "either excluded or permitted to occupy only some special section" so far as museums, art galleries, theatres, concert halls, public auditoriums, parks, gymnasiums, and swimming pools are concerned.

Library service for Negroes in the South (where, remember, over nine million Negroes live) is utterly insufficient. Thus, in 1939 there were in thirteen Southern States a total of 99 poorly equipped public libraries which served Negroes. This was less than one-seventh of all such institutions in the area, and meant that while 43% of the white people of the South are provided with public library service but 21% of the Negroes have any such service.[20]

CIVIL LIBERTIES:

There is unanimous agreement, by all observers and commentators, that fundamental legal rights, such as service on ordinary and grand juries, freedom from search and arrest except by warrant, and freedom from physical torture when in the hands of the law, are highly exceptional as concerns the vast majority of America's Negro citizens.[21]

Nor is there any disagreement as to the fact that, in violation of all law, the majority of these citizens are deprived, by subterfuge and force, of the vital right of the suffrage. This fact is openly and proudly announced by the successful politicians foisted upon the South and the Nation by such an undemocratic system. Thus, to cite but one example, the present senior United States Senator from the State of Georgia, Walter F. George, wrote for publication, in 1938:[22] "Why apologize or evade? We have been very careful to obey the letter of the Federal constitution - but we have been very diligent and astute in violating the spirit of such amendments and such statutes as would lead the Negro to believe himself the equal of the white man. And we shall continue to conduct ourselves in that way."

(more)

This disfranchisement affects, as it is meant to, the poor-Negro and white - and its results are clear. To cite an outstanding example; in the last Presidential election (1944) only 27.9% of the entire potential electorate of the thirteen Southern States actually voted, while 61.9% of the potential electorate of the other thirty-five States exercised their suffrage. The figures are even more arresting when one looks at the (then) eight poll-tax States for there (Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Arkansas, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, South Carolina) only 19% of the potential voters did[23]. And remember, these percentages include both Negro and white people.

PEONAGE AND VIOLENCE:

No survey of the oppression of the American Negro, unsavery though it be, may neglect two other basic phenomena - peonage and violence. Neither of these is, as yet, subject to precise statistical presentation, but that both are widespread is unquestionable, and each deserves full, thorough investigation by groups independent of the dominant Southern cliques.

Reports of the existence of peonage have appeared and reappeared in the American press for fifty years,[24] some of it creeps into recent government publications,[25] occasional indictments and even convictions of individuals suspected or guilty of the practice occur (there were seven Federal indictments and five convictions for peonage, all involving Negroes, during the late War),[26] eye-witness accounts appear in authentic studies,[27] and, in 1939, the Social Service Committee of the Georgia Baptist Convention, meeting in Augusta, declared[28] that there were more people then held in debt-slavery or peonage than had ever been chattel-slaves in America.

Agreement exists, too, that violence against Negroes is so common, particularly in the South, as to be institutionalized. Most publicized, of course, is the tactic of lynching, and while organized struggle against this bestial practice has undoubtedly reduced the frequency of its appearance, it still does occur and the threat of its use is very much alive.

Of greater importance, today, however, is the device of "dry lynching", the secret, unpublicized mutilation or destruction of an "undesirable" Negro by a small group of individuals (frequently, it is believed, officers of the law). From the nature of this device precise details and figures are not available, but it is significant that a study, in 1940, sponsored by four United States Congressmen, including Senators Wagner and Capper, by a "native white Southerner who must remain anonymous" states "that countless Negroes are lynched yearly, but their disappearance is shrouded in mystery, for they are dispatched quietly and without general knowledge."[29] Other recent works have offered substantiating remarks,[30] and

this is certainly a type of barbarism that should be thoroughly investigated and absolutely extirpated.

CONCLUSION:

The effect upon the mental life of both the victims and the manipulators of this economic, social, political, and physical machine of oppression is only now beginning to be analyzed scientifically, but enough has already appeared to make clear the terrible urgency of the question.[31]

The cancer of racism has spread its poison throughout the life of America. Its throttling and killing effect upon the people of the entire nation - North and South, Negro and white - grows more fearful and more anachronistic with the passing of each hour.

The Negro people, for themselves, and for the benefit of all other inhabitants of America, demand full freedom and absolute equality. Nothing short of this will satisfy them. Where one is enslaved, all are in chains.

uepwa26cio END

* * * * * * * * * * * *

NOTES

1. In 1913, quoted by Robert L. Jack, History of the NAACP (Boston, 1943), pp. 67,68

2. Characteristics of the Non-White Population, 16th Census, 1940 (U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, 1943), p.47

3. Alba M. Edwards, Comparative occupational statistics for the United States, 1870-1940 (U.S. Gov'tv Printing Office, Washington, 1943), p. 188

4. Bulletin of the Bureau of School Service, University of Kentucky March, 1936, p.26

5. Louis J. Ducoff, Wages of agricultural labor in the United States, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Technical Bulletin No. 895 (Washington, July, 1945), p. 98

6. Consumer incomes in the United States; Their distribution in 1935-36, (National Resources Committee, U.S. Gov't Printing Office, Washington, 1943), p.28

7. M. L. Stecker, Intercity differences in costs of living, March 1935, (Research Monograph XII, W. P. A., Washington, 1937), p.172

8. Public Housing and the Negro, (U.S. Public Housing Authority, Washington, 1941 (?), p.1; A. M. Edwards, op.cit., p.188; Negro Women War Workers (Bulletin No.205, Women's Bureau, U.S. Dept. of Labor (Washington, 1945) p.

9. Monthly Labor Review, (1942), LXII, p.1 (published in Washington by the Department of Labor)

10. Public Housing and the Negro, op. cit., p.1

11. Housing, Vol. II, PartI, 16th Census, 1940 (U.S. Gov't Printing Office, Washington, 1943), pp.16,17,18,19,24,25

(more)

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12. Figures and quotation are from F. E. Linder and R. D. Grove, Vital Statistics rates in the United States, 1900-1940, 16th Census (U.S. Gov't Printing Office, Washington, 1943), pp.12,177,179,650

13. See T. J. Woofter, Jr., Races and ethnic groups in American life (N.Y., 1933, monograph in President's Committee on Recent Social Trends), p. 153

14. D. T. Blose and H. F. Alves; Statistics of state school systems, 1939-40 and 1941-42, (U.S. Office of Education, Washington, 1944), p. 38

15. All preceding data on education from source as in note 14 -

16. J. K. Norton and E. S. Lawlor, An inventory of public school expenditures in the United States (mimeographed, American Council on Education, Washington, 1942) I p.12

17. L. B. Hershey, Selective service in wartime, First report of the Director of Selective Service 1940-41, (U.S. Govt. Printing Office, Washington, 1942) p. 402; The Black and White of Rejections for military service (American Teachers Association Studies, Montgomery, Ala., 1944) p.2

18. Ambrose, Caliver, A Summary: National survey of the higher education of Negroes, Misc. No. 6, Vol. IV (U.S. Office of Education, Washington, 1943), pp3,24. Note discrimination in Federal grants to land-grant colleges in U. S. Johnson, Patterns of Segregation (N.Y., 1943), p.13

19. I. C. Brown, Socio-Economic approach to educational problems, Misc. No. 6, Vol. I (U.S. Office of Education, Washington, 1942) p. 43

20. E. A. Gleason, The Southern Negro and the Public Library, (University of Chicago, 1941) pp.90,93

21. For a recent, authoritative summary, based on source material, see Charles S. Mangum, Jr., The Legal Status of the Negro (University of North Carolina, 1940) passim

22. Liberty Magazine, April 21, 1938

23. These facts are conveniently presented in Voting Restrictions in 13 Southern States, a report by the Committee of Editors and Writers of the South (Atlanta, 1945 (?)), introduction

24. See, for example, the citations in J. G. Van Deusen, The Black Man in White America (Washington, 1944) pp.18-19

25. L. J. Ducoff, op.cit., p.24

26. Florence Murray in Social Forces (1945) XXIV, p. 213

27. A. Davis, B. Gardner, M. Gardner, Deep South (University of Chicago, 1941) pp.337,340-41,351-53,356-57,392

28. J. Gollomb, What's Democracy to you? (N.Y., 1940) p.65; G. Myrdal, An American Dilemma (N.Y., 1944), II, p.1242

29. Lynching Goes Underground (n.p., 1940) sponsored by Senators Wagner and Capper and Representatives Fish and Gavagan. See Myrdal, op. cit., II, p.13

30. See C. S. Johnson, Growing up in the black belt (Washington, 1942) p.5; J. D. Amos, The changing character of lynching (Atlanta, 1942) p.9; Davis, Gardner and Gardner, op.cit.p.394

31. See, for example, the six volumes of the "Negro Youth Survey" by Reid, Davis and Dollard, Frazier, Johnson, Warner, Junker and Adams, and Sutherland, published from 1940-44 in Washington by the American Youth Commission of the American Council on Education.

END

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Date: June 14, 1946

To: Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
War Department
Washington, D. C.
Attention: Reading Panel, Military Intelligence Service

From: John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: PETITION OF NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
TO ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OF THE UNO

At the Tenth Anniversary Annual Convention held by the National Negro Congress at Detroit, Michigan, from May 30 to June 2, 1946, a petition was drawn up by the Executive Board of the National Negro Congress for presentation to the Economic and Social Council of the UNO, requesting action on the part of that group to eliminate discriminatory practices and segregation which are forced upon the American Negroes in this country. This petition was presented at the convention to the delegates who voted that this petition be presented as designed.

A copy of this petition was obtained, a photostatic copy of which is being forwarded herewith for your confidential information.

cc - Chief of Naval Intelligence
Navy Department
Washington, D. C.

Attachment B

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APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADMINISTRATIVE
SLIP (S) Rec'd
DATE 7/9/25

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BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

declassified by SP-1 GSK/RH
6/7/79

Date: June 14, 1946

To: Mr. Frederick B. Lyon
Chief, Division of Foreign Activity Correlation
State Department
Washington, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: PETITION OF NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
TO ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OF THE UNO

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EX-25

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MAILED
JUN 14 1946
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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F.B.I. TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

[redacted]

FBI DETROIT
DIRECTOR

[redacted] (c) 9-02 PM EST DLS

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, IS-C. PURSUANT AUTHORIZATION OF MICROPHONE - TELEPHONE INSTALLATION BY TELEPHONE MAY 17, TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE ON TELEPHONE NUMBER CADILLAC 7199 WHICH IS ADDITIONAL SERVICE AT SAME LOCATION FOR [redacted] ESTABLISHED TWO TEN PM MAY TWENTY NINE. [redacted]

AUTHORIZED BY REFERENCED TELEPHONE CALL AND BY URTEL DATED FEBRUARY THIRTEEN LAST, FACILITIES FOR WHICH NOT PRESENTLY AVAILABLE.

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FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW FOR
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Mr. Tolson
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Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

F.B.I. TELETYPE

[redacted]

FBI DETROIT [redacted] (C) 4-12 PM EST EMB

DIRECTOR URGENT

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, IS-C. CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT DE TWO TWO FOUR TERMINATED FIVE THIRTY PM JUNE FIRST AND INSTALLATIONS DISCONTINUED FOUR PM JUNE THIRD

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

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N. Y. FILE NO. 100-3633

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW YORK	6/6/46	4/15;5/20,23, 24,27/46	[redacted] b7C

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

b7C

REVELS CAYTON, leading negro [redacted] rom San Francisco, California, appointed National Executive Secretary of the NNC in New York. NNC active in fight for permanent FEPC. Manhattan Council, NNC, formed. Executive Board meeting held 2/22,23/46 at 23 West 26th Street, New York City. Total income of NNC for year 1945 was $28,020.73; total expenses $28,652.36. Labor conference held by NNC at Irving Plaza Hotel, 3/30/46. NNC active in attempting to organize in I.L.A. through Rank and File Committee, I.L.A. Tenth national convention of NNC to be held at Detroit, Michigan, May 30th through June 2, 1946, to formulate and begin expanded program of NNC.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY SLIP (S) DATE

CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY SP-1 GSK/RH 6/7/79
REASON FOR EXTENSION FCIM, II, 1-2
DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION 6/7/99

P.

Reference: Bureau File 61-6728
Report of Special Agent [redacted] New York, November 26, 1945
New York letter to Detroit, April 18, 1946

b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Details: [redacted] n November 29, 1945, advised that [redacted] of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS in a discussion with [redacted] of the NATIONAL

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b7D,C

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: E. E. Conroy SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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3 New York

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NEGRO CONGRESS asked [redacted] when the money from the MARSHALL FOUNDATION would be received by the Congress. [redacted] she was interested in receiving this money because they would be unable to meet the payroll of the NNC without it. [redacted] that the check should be in the next day or so, that out of it, the Congress owed the COUNCIL ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS $810, and [redacted] $500. b7(,D

[redacted] the NORTHSIDE UNION LEAGUE of Atlantic City, New Jersey, an organization of about 400 members, had affiliated itself with the NNC and received a certificate of affiliation from the Congress. [redacted] BORIS J. BRYANT, JR. was president, and Mrs. VIRGINIA NETTLES was secretary of this organization. b7D

b2
b7D

[redacted] had received a letter from [redacted] a copy of this letter which was as follows:

"November 5th

"Dear [redacted]

"We have received word from Esther WILLIAMSON, as to the decisions made regarding the Congress, and I am also in receipt of your two letters and the letter from THELMA DALE. I have in mind also our several telephone conversations.

"As I previously indicated, the feeling of myself and those with whom I am is that if it is possible for me to make a real contribution as the National Secretary of the NNC, it would be a worthwhile project. However, if there were to be definite limitations as to what that contribution could be due to lack of finances and forces, then this should be weighed against the concrete and definite contribution that I could make here on the West Coast.

"I feel this was the shortcoming in the communication from WILLIAMSON, as well as in the letters from you and THELMA.

"In order to give me a complete picture of how I would be able to function, I am raising certain questions. In making these inquiries, I want it fully understood that I am quite conscious of

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"the difficulties of the struggle, and hope I'll not give the impression that I am expecting a ready-made, smooth operating organization to step into. Now, here are the questions.

"1. What is the budget of the National Office to date?

"2. What are the forces to be assigned to this work?

"3. What organizational person would work in connection with me?

"4. What secretarial help will there be?

"5. What is my salary to be? In this regard, I wish to state it is our plan if I remain here [redacted] to take some time off her job inasmuch as she is very worn out and is in need of rest. I would feel it completely unfair on my part to bring her to New York and throw her into another office job to supplement my wages as she has been doing for the past ten years.

"6. Would there be sufficient expense budget to enable me to contact such cities as Detroit, Chicago, Cleveland and other big industrial centers where in my opinion the Congress should dig in among the tens of thousands of industrial workers.

"This coming Saturday, November 10th, there will be a city-wide meeting of the top CIO people in Fresno at which time I intend to suggest this matter before them and thereafter will go to the State Board. These men know the deep feeling I have about the Congress and the role of such an organization, and what it means to my people. Also how it might fulfill in a sense the one dream I have had and lived all my life - the unity of the negro people in the great trade union movement. But they are practical men who think in a hardboiled way about things and who have had great organizational experience and it is to them that a practical program and the wherewithal to accomplish it must be presented, but it is not alone for them, it is for me too, for you know, [redacted] I left the good earth of San Francisco, of Clay and Commercial Streets once before and made a mistake. I realized and came back and dug in again, going to work and coming up the hard way. I have my feet on the ground again. I have my feet on the ground again and feel the strength of my people around me. A move of this type, of such deep significance, must have a fair chance of succeeding providing I put

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"everything I have got in me in it. I understand the pressure of the work there, the need for getting things rolling around your National Conference and how my long silence must be really exasperating. However, perhaps some of the reasons for my not writing sooner have been due to some of my own lack of clarity as to just how to face the question. I do feel, nevertheless, that this is the best way, putting my cards on the table is the first prerequisite of complete understanding and mutual confidence. I particularly feel that these long drawn-out negotiations have been unfair to THELMA because of the weight of the organization on her shoulders and I hope she will be patient and understanding.

"With warm personal regards,

"Yours,

[redacted]

[redacted] He advised that [redacted] stated that he had attended a meeting of the top CIO people in California a few days previously in Fresno and that he had presented the whole question to them; that he told them he refused to decide the question himself and was placing the whole matter before them. He stated he demanded the following things:

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b2

"1. That there be recognition, that there be a necessity for a real driving movement for negro people in America and on the Pacific Coast.

"2. And if I go, this is not a single question that I'm deciding, but it is a decision from all of you guys.

"3. And if I go, that there are real commitments that you people are going to make to the trade union movement and the whole progressive movement, conscious of everything politically that it means when I leave.

"4. That you commit yourself that you are going to build the Congress on the West Coast. We are going to build a real driving negro people's movement on the Pacific Coast with funds and finances coming from the trade union movement to do that thing.

"5. That if in the event that I can't make it, and if I don't make it, that you will always come home son."

[redacted] said that they discussed the whole matter, and that [redacted] (phonetic) said "We should be proud that we can give somebody to the whole movement". He said that the men from the ILWU said they wanted to write [redacted] local union asking that he be released which would be taken up by his own union and BRIDGES and the whole International Executive Board, and that they would agree to release [redacted] for this purpose. [redacted]

The NEW YORK AMSTERDAM NEWS, a colored newspaper on December 22, 1945, carried an article which stated that MAX YERGAN, president of the NNC, announced the appointment of REVELS CAYTON to the national staff of the NNC as executive secretary. The article stated that CAYTON had participated in the great maritime strike of 1934 on the West Coast where he was a well-known trade union leader in the Maritime Industry serving as a business agent for the Marine Cooks and Stewards Association for three years and as secretary-treasurer of the Bay Area Council of the Maritime Federation. It stated that he was one of the senior vice presidents of the California State CIO Council.

The article further stated that YERGAN announced that THELMA DALE, acting secretary of the NNC, would assume the position of field secretary, and that EDWARD P. STRONG, former executive secretary on military leave, would return to the NNC in another capacity.

[redacted]

[redacted] b2 b7D

that ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR., congressman from the 22nd Congressional District, and BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, JR., leading negro Communist, had called for a national pilgrimage to Washington, D.C. on January 17th or 18th, 1946 in connection with the FEPC. [redacted] she understood that the Washington Office of the NNC was going to take the lead on following through on this delegation.

[redacted] b7D

On December 29, 1945, the PEOPLE'S VOICE, negro newspaper, carried a statement by DAVIS and Congressman ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR. urging a "people's delegation to Washington January 17, 1946, to see the elected representatives of the people." The article stated they were sending this appeal to the trade unions, CIO and AFL and to the people's organizations, churches, et cetera. The article requested organizations to elect delegates to accompany this delegation and asked them to communicate with the National Negro Congress, the People's Committee, the Negro Labor Victory Committee or POWELL's or DAVIS' office.

[redacted] b2 b7D

[redacted] advised that a Harlem-wide demonstration would be held on January 12, 1946, to raise funds for the delegation which was going to Washington on January 17th and also to urge people to join it. He advised that parties would be held over the weekend in a number of Communist Party clubs in New York City in order to raise funds for the delegation. b7D

[redacted] that a letter had been received by all Communist Party clubs from [redacted] b7D

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[redacted] of the New York County Communist Party, urging the clubs to support the delegation to Washington. [redacted] the letter contained a mimeographed appeal for support of this delegation and was written by BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, JR. and Congressman ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR. [redacted] each club in the Harlem area was being requested to send approximately ten delegates with the delegation, and that it was intended that delegations from other cities having large negro populations were expected to join the New York delegation in Washington on January 17, 1946.

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[redacted]

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[redacted]

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(c)

[redacted]

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[redacted] b1

[redacted] (c)

[redacted] b2 b7D

[redacted] told REVELS CAYTON that he would attend the meeting to clear up the whole matter of the delegation to Washington.

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] the delegation would leave the Pennsylvania Railroad Station on the 6 a.m. train on January 17th and that the National Negro Congress and the Negro Labor Victory Committee were to be credited with arranging the delegation.

It was decided that REVELS CAYTON, newly appointed national executive secretary of the National Negro Congress, would lead the delegation and would do the organization work for it in New York, while DOROTHY FUNN, labor and legislative director of the NNC in Washington, D.C., would handle the organization down there; that she would arrange for meeting places for the delegation in Washington and that she would contact Representatives VITO MARCANTONIO and HUGH DE LACY to discuss plans for the delegation while they are there, and also where pressure by the delegation would do the most good.

[redacted] the delegation numbering about 150 from New York, left on the 6 a.m. train for Washington, D.C. and that the delegation itself amounted to approximately 500 people. There were representatives from the following states: Illinois, Wisconsin, Maryland, Missouri, Ohio, Kansas, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Deleware and Connecticut. [redacted] the delegation arrived in Washington, D.C. at 11:45 a.m. on January 17, 1946 and marched to the old House building where the delegation assembled in the hall. [redacted] REVELS CAYTON was chairman of the meeting, and the first speaker was BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, JR. who gave a brief discussion of the work and purpose of the delegation. b7D

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[redacted] parts of the delegation would see the President's secretary, DAVID K. NILES, parts to see Senator WALLACE WHITE, Representative JOHN McCORMACK, Representative JOSEPH MARTIN, Senator BARKLEY, Senator CHAVEZ, and various other Congressmen. [redacted] the remaining members of the delegation were advised to see the Senators and Congressmen from their particular state and to urge them to sign the petition for a permanent Fair Employment Practices Commission.

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[redacted] a mass meeting was held at Manhattan Center, New York City under the auspices of the National Negro Congress for the purpose of giving a report on the delegation which went to Washington on January 17, 1946 to urge favorable action by Congress in the establishment of a national Fair Employment Practices Commission. [redacted] approximately 100 persons attended this meeting, and that represented in the group were trade unionists, Communist Party members, sympathizers and members of the National Maritime Union. [redacted] Dr. MAX YERGAN, national president of the National Negro Congress, acted as chairman of the meeting and spoke concerning the FEPC stating that it is a "must" piece of legislation for the present Congress. He stressed in his speech how the industralists were pitting the white and negro workers against each other and that this tactic must be abated.

The next speaker was THELMA DALE, national secretary of the NNC, who reported on a recent conference of women held in Paris, France which she attended. She stated that women were demanding better opportunities, equality, and that they must fight against Fascism at home and abroad, and that the world must find a way to secure peace and democracy.

Commander ISADORE GINSBURG, State Commander, Jewish War Veterans, spoke concerning the plan for a permanent FEPC and stated it was essential to Jews as well as to all other minority groups, and that the Jewish War Veterans were 100% behind this backing for a permanent FEPC.

JOSEPH SELIEY, president of the Western Union strikers, called for support of the Western Union strike and asked for financial aid and foodstuffs for the strikers.

BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, JR. gave a report on the delegation to Washington on January 17, 1946, and stated that much good was realized by this delegation as it focused public attention on the action of the Senate and the filibuster to defeat FEPC. He stated the delegation made some Congressmen change their minds about the discharge petition of the FEPC in the House

of Representatives and they have signed it. He berated Senators EASTMAN, BILBO and RANKIN and other southern groups who are against FEPC.

The last speaker was REVELS CAYTON, national executive secretary of the NNC, who urged an all-out fight for FEPC and stated that all those present should contribute to the NNC to aid in their work.

[redacted] b2 b7D

discussed the fact that the NNC were interested in getting a foothold in the Red Caps' Union in Washington, D.C., but that it was receiving some strong opposition from a Mr. WEADER who is connected with that union in Washington. [redacted] a statement in connection with labor that he had prepared. This statement was as follows:

"Brothers and Sisters, bread and butter and freedom go hand-in-hand. The battle of organized labor today for decent living standards is the front line of the war for democracy. It is our fight 100 per cent. The striking unions, A.F. of L. and particularly C.I.O. are leading the entire people against the bankers and industrialists who are fat with war profits. Profiteers want Fascism for America. They are denying the workers who produced to win the war, and the home-coming veterans who fought to win the war, enough wages to meet the inflated cost of living. As they try to smash the unions, they are trying to smash FEPC to sow race hatred and division among the people. The powerful unions of Negro and white workers are fighting back and will not be crushed.

"A virtual national picketline is in formation as strike action mounts among the automobile, steel, electrical and packing-house workers. All freedom-loving Americans are rallying to their support. We are among them. Our victory means fair employment practices, and a better standard of living for all Americans. Our victory means a knock-out blow at American Fascism. We, the undersigned, 100 Negro trade unionists, through the National Negro Congress call upon our people to demonstrate to the entire nation our full solidarity with the strikers, with resolutions in support to the strikers, and to CIO PHILIP MURRAY from civic, fraternal, youth and religious organizations; financial support and food collections for the striking workers, public meetings to give the strikers and others an opportunity to bring the situation to the public, political pressure to stop the attempts of the President and Congress to hog-tie the workers with anti-labor legislation. Rally for fraternal picketing when the unions call for it."

[redacted] agreed this was a fine statement.

[redacted] the possibility of merging the Negro Labor Victory Committee, of which STEVENS was an official with the NNC but no definite decision was reached at this time.

On February 2, 1946, an article appeared in the PEOPLE'S VOICE, colored Communist-controlled newspaper, which stated in part that at a meeting held the preceding Friday at the Hotel Theresa in Harlem, it had been voted to re-establish and re-organize the Manhattan Council of the NNC. The article stated that plans for the Council included the organizing of a veterans' committee and a youth division, and a committee of nine was appointed to organize and plan the program. They were Mrs. VEOLA COLLINS, GILBERT SHERMAN, HOPE STEVENS, MRS. MARILYN ALEXANDER, LEROY TIMMONS, MRS. GLADYS FRANCIS, MOSES BEACH, ERNESTINE RAINEY and GEORGE LAURENCE who was elected to serve in the capacity of the youth representative.

[redacted] a national executive board meeting of the NNC was held on February 22nd and 23, 1946 at 23 West 26th Street, New York City. b7D

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[redacted]

Messages regretting inability to attend the meeting, but pledging support were received from EDMONIA W. GRANT, Nashville, Tenn.; Dr. CHARLOTTE HAWKINS BROWN, Sedalia, N.C.; LOUIS SAUNDERS, Jersey City, N.J.; ESTELLE RIDDLE, FREDERICK V. FIELD, New York City; Mrs. ROBBIE MAE RIDDICK, Suffolk, Virginia; Dr. R. A. SIMMONS, Boston, Mass.

Informant further advised that the activities conducted at this meeting were as follows:

MAX YERGAN (President of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS) welcomed the board members and local council delegates to the meeting.

THELMA M. DALE (Field Secretary) reporting on the activities of the Congressmen - 1945, advised that the Military Equality campaign sponsored by the Congress had been comparatively successful; that the membership drive of the Detroit Council had enlisted 2,000 new members; that the revitalization, or building of councils in Washington, D.C., had added 670 members to the rolls and active affiliations to the Congress had been made in Camden, in Jersey City; New York; Baltimore, Maryland; Bridgeport, Connecticut; the UNITED PEOPLE'S ACTION COMMITTEE, in Philadelphia; and the EASTERN NEW ENGLAND CONGRESS FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITY, in Boston, Massachusetts; that the Washington Legislative Bureau of the Congress was reestablished at 1015 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.; that the Congress had participated in the FEPC delegation to Washington, D.C.; that the Congress had participated in sending CHARLES COLLINS, National Board member, as an observer to the World Trade Union Conference in Paris, at which time he also represented the Negro Labor Victory Committee and the Council on African Affairs; that THELMA DALE was sent as a representative of the Congress as one of the twelve American delegates for the International Women's Congress in Paris and that REVELS CAYTON, outstanding trade unionist from the West Coast, had been added to the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS staff as Executive Secretary.

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This report of DALE's was accepted.

DOROTHY K. FUNN (Legislative Secretary) made a report on the active legislative problems which the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS Legislative Bureau is currently working on. They were as follows:

1. Un-American Rankin Committee.

2. FEPC

3. Labor's legislative program setting forth that intensive action is needed to help secure the passage of 65-75¢ hourly wage minimum; that intensive action is also needed to help secure the passage of the following: THE DOUGLAS RESOLUTION ON BIG THREE UNITY ON CONTROL OF ATOMIC ENERGY; emergency housing for veterans; the defeat of all anti-labor bills; enactment of permanent FEPC legislation; and price control.

4. Anti-Poll Tax bill.

5. Wagner-Murray-Dingell Social Security Bill

It was proposed that local councils consider calling legislative and political action conferences on a local or regional basis in the spring.

JEANNE PASTOR (Director of Publications) reported that the regular distribution of "CONGRESS VIEW" is now 3,000 monthly; that 3,000 extra copies of the special labor issue (January-February 1946) were sold to the UAW - CIO, and 500 copies were sold to the NATIONAL MARITIME UNION, New York Port; that plans are already underway to increase the circulation to 25,000 by the end of 1946. It was proposed that a special souvenir journal edition of "CONGRESS VIEW" be prepared for the Tenth Anniversary Convention and further recommended that a pre-convention organizing pamphlet and at least three pamphlets reporting various phases of the convention be publicized.

PASTOR reported that other publications underway include the Malzac biography and the Edward Strong-James Jackson book on Negro soldiers. PASTOR further reported that the budget projected on publications indicated an expenditure of $5,420.00, exclusive of the Malzac biography with an estimated income of $7,800.00, thus making publications not only self-sustaining, but profitable.

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This report was amended to include the remarks of Mr. LEBRON SIMMONS and others who stressed the need for intensifying the campaign for subscriptions and suggested reduced rates for "CONGRESS VIEW" subscriptions made at the time of membership application.

This suggestion was referred to the Staff for further action and the rest of the report of PASTOR was adopted.

REVELS CAYTON (Executive Secretary) made the main report of the Board meeting in which he emphasized the need for intensified organizing within the next three months so that the Tenth Anniversary Convention will reflect organizational growth of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS. Stressing the role which the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS has played in the building of the organized labor movement, particularly the CIO in steel, mine mill, food, maritime, and federal workers, CAYTON indicated that the new Congress organization would be labor based in such a way that it will be possible to bring the greatest unity of the Negro people with the organized labor movement and thus galvanize into action the labor and progressive forces of this country for progress.

Following CAYTON'S report, it was agreed that the Tenth Anniversary Convention be held in Detroit, 30th May, through 2nd June, 1946, and that the tentative outline for the Convention be as follows:

Thursday, May 30th -

Registration and housing

10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.	Meeting of National Board and appointment of working committees for Convention.
5:00 - P.M. - 7:00 P.M.	Opening Detroit Art Exhibit. Auspices: New Masses and Detroit Council, NNC.
8:00 P.M.	Keynote address to delegates and observers by key labor figure.

Friday, May 31st

11:00 A.M.	Opening session
2:00 P.M.	Panels
8:00 P.M.	Negro Freedom Rally - Olympia Stadium

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Saturday, June 1st

10:00 A.M.	Reports of conference committees and panels.
5:00 P.M.	Cultural program and dance

Sunday, June 2nd

11:00 A.M.	Church services
2:00 P.M.	Closing business session and election of officers and national board.

Proposed Panels:	Special Panels:
Jobs and economic securities	Veterans
Civil Rights	Women
Political action	Youth
World peace and democracy	Council building

CAYTON proposed the establishment of ten committees to accomplish the organizational and other objectives of the convention such as:

Trade Union Committee	Organizing Committee
Publications & Education	Cultural
Finance	Political Action
Youth	Colonial
Constitution	Veterans

Board members were urged to make suggestions of personnel on these committees to the staff after which those present agreed that a special committee be appointed to formulate an approved policy and program with regard to more united action by Negro and Jewish organizations and other national groups.

CAYTON'S report was adopted and the staff was authorized to proceed immediately to carry it out.

GEORGE B. MURPHY, JR. (Former Administrative Secretary of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS) called for support of the program of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS and requested the Congress to support the Veterans Conference to be held in Chicago on 6th and 7th of April, 1946. The Board voted unanimously in support of MURPHY'S recommendation.

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RUTH JETT (Administrative Assistant) related that the total income for the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS for the year of 1945 amounted to $28,020.73; that the total expenditures were $28,652.36. Excess of expenditures over income in 1945 amounted to $631.63; that the current status of the treasury as of February 22, 1946, was as follows:

Cash on hand:	$ 834.51
Accounts payable	1,584.19
Loans payable	1,300.00

Leaving a current deficit of $2049.68.

JETT further related in substance the need for intensifying the membership drives of local councils andthe importance of sending to the National Office its share (5%) of all membership and affiliation fees. This point was emphasized.

The report of JETT was accepted with the proposal that the Finance Committee headed by FERDINAND SMITH, National Treasurer, be activised and that all efforts be made to secure the necessary funds.

Other actions taken by the Board included the following resolutions:

1. Demanding proper review of the case of Chaplain LUTHER FULLER.

2. Demand that Governor DEWEY institute special investigation into the Freeport, L.I. murders.

3. Support to the Festus Coleman case.

4. A statement on the terror in India, Egypt, and Indonesia.

Informant further advised that Dr. MAX YERGAN made a brief summary of the Board meeting decisions, emphasising the great need for carrying out these decisions and for building the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS and carrying through the Tenth Anniversary Convention.

ATTORNEY HOPE STEVENS called particular attention to the untiring service and the forthright leadership which Dr. YERGAN has given during the years of his presidency of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS. Motion was adopted to incorporate the remarks of Mr. STEVENS in the permanent record of the Board meeting.

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[redacted]

On March 28, 1946, the DAILY WORKER carried an article which stated that the NNC had announced a negro labor unity conference to take place March 30th at the Irving Plaza Hotel, and that JAMES GLASCOW, leader of the Rank and File Committee of the International Longshoremen's Association and acting secretary of the conference, stated that the aims were to maintain "the wartime gains of negro workers, to break into lily-white industries and to stimulate the training of negro veterans." [redacted] advised that this conference was by "invitation only" and that it was impossible for anyone other than the person who had received an invitation to attend.

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[redacted] plans for the convention of the NNC were going ahead rapidly, and that full clearance had been given for throwing support behind the securing of the broadest representation, and particularly trade unions, to the convention; that they plan on about one thousand delegates mainly from industrial areas but that they did not think they would be able to do much in connection with the South. He stated that they hoped the convention would be 85 per cent working-class composition, and to accomplish these aims, they were establishing a trade union department of the NNC which would be the foremost group within the organization, and that the first meeting of this department would be held in New York City on March 30th and 31st, 1946, at which time they would have representation of leading negro and white trade unionists from all parts of the country.

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[redacted] the National Trade Union Department of the NNC would have a maritime committee, and that this committee would be active in securing members and developing a program

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among maritime workers, and that it will use as its first base the negro and white seamen, and from this base project a program into the rank and file negro and white longshoremen of the ILA; that they plan to secure the services of JAMES GLASGOW, who was the rank and file negro worker in the last insurrection against RYAN, to be active in thismaritime committee.

[redacted] had been attending meetings of the rank and file committee of the longshoremen here in New York and had met with their committee, and that the numerical strength and influence of negro ILA workers on the east coast and Gulf was astounding; that in view of this and with the increased prestige and standing of the NNC, the value of such organization among ILA workers in the light of some of their future perspectives was quite obvious.

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[redacted] a copy of a letter on the stationery of the NNC, which letter was being distributed by the Congress as a call to the 10th anniversary convention of the NNC to be held in Detroit, Michigan on May 30th through June 2, 1946. Enclosed with this letter was a copy of the program of the NNC for this convention which was as follows:

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"TENTH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

May 30th - June 2nd Detroit, Michigan

PROGRAM

"THURSDAY, MAY 30th

From 9:00 a.m.	Registration of Delegates and Housing Assignments	Main Ballroom 114 Erskine
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Meeting, National Executive Board NNC; Appointment of Convention Committees: Presiding, Credentials, Resolutions, Nominations, Rules	Lucy Thurman Y.W.C.A.
5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.	Opening, Detroit Art Exhibit	Urban League House
8:00 p.m.-11:00	Delegates Assembly	Bethel AME Church 583 Frederick

"FRIDAY, MAY 31st

10:00 a.m.-12:00	Opening Session:	Rackham Building Fransworth & Woodwar
10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.	Organizational report by Revels Cayton, Executive Secretary National Negro Congress;	
10:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.	Report of National Executive Board on working committees for the Convention; Action of the Convention on said report, including additional nominations for the committees; Election of same.	
11:15 a.m.-12: noon	State Caucases	

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Friday, May 31st (continued)

1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Panels:

I - Jobs & Economic Security

II - Health & Housing

III - Civil Rights

IV - Farm Problems

4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Commissions on Special Problems:

Veterans	Political Action	World Peace & Democracy
Women	Trade Unions	
Youth	Culture & Education	

4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Conference Committees — State Caucuses

8:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m. NEGRO FREEDOM RALLY — Cass Technical H. S. West Vernor & 2nd Blvd.

"SATURDAY, JUNE 1st

10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Council Building — Rackham Building

1:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Reports of Convention Committees, Special Commissions & Panels

"SUNDAY, JUNE 2nd

11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Church Services — St. Antoine Y.M.C.A.

1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Closing Business Session:

Report of Special Committees on Council Building
Election of Officers & Executive Board
Unfinished Business

5:00 p.m. Adjournment"

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On May 20th, 1946, Confidential Informant ND 369 supplied a copy of a more complete program for the convention of the NNC, which is to be held in Detroit, Michigan, May 30th through June 2, 1946; this program is as follows:

"Call to Action . . .

"Shining Star

"Negro people of America! We have come up a long, steep road. It's a fight all the way. Where do we stand today? What shall we do now? How can we reach that goal of Freedom and Equality which has been our bright and shining star, guiding us through all the dark and bloody years of our march from bondage?

"Today our boys are coming home from the war. Some of them will never return — they gave 'their last full measure of devotion' in the fight to prevent the fascist powers from enslaving the world. To what kind of America have our veterans returned?

"The recent hard-won economic and democratic gains of the Negro people are in grave danger! The reactionary enemies of the Negro people are on the march! Fascism is not dead!

"Solution?

"Today the giant organizations of labor - Packinghouse - UAW - UE & Steel - and in the Maritime and other Unions - the Negro trade unionist walks in newly won equality with his white brothers in the CIO and in progressive sections of the AFL. Peace can permit no retreat from these giant gains. They must be strengthened and broadened - towards the aim of smashing all vestiges of jimcrow in those industries which continue to discriminate. The Negro and white trade union member has a vast responsibility. Today the problem of discrimination cries for solution. Organized labor must take the lead in preventing monopoly capital from turning back the clock.

"Four score and three years have passed since Lincoln's Emancipation was proclaimed. Seventeen more years will mark the First Century of Negro progress out of chattel slavery. Will that great Centennial Day dawn in glory upon a Negro people who are free and equal Americans?

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"New Glory

"World War II brought new glory to the fighting record of the Negro people. America's vast arsenal of production was augmented to full strength for the first time in our country's history - by a skilled labor force of thousands of Negro workers. They fought the good fight - in the auto shops of Detroit and Flint - in the steel blast furnaces of Pennsylvania - in the aircraft factories of California - in transport through the whole of 48 states - in mine and mill - as well as on the field of battle - they proved their worth. Any unorganized minority in the ranks of labor is a threat to the living standards of all American labor.

"Today tens of thousands of Negro men and women are being thrown out of their jobs. Thousands more are being down-graded to the lowest paid and worst jobs.

"Evil

"In Congress an unholy alliance of evil men, pro-fascist and reactionary Southern Democrats (Bilbo and Rankin) and Northern Republicans (Taft, Hickenlopper and Capehart) have ganged up against the FEPC Bill.

"In Freeport, Long Island - in the North - two Negro brothers, veterans, were shot down in the streets, murdered by the law. In Columbia, Tennessee - in the South - the entire Negro community was terrorized, shot up and pillaged; and two Negroes slain in jail, a mob attack and lynching by the law.

"The corporations and big employers have launched a great conspiracy to drive down the living standards of the working people by attacking the trade unions, cutting wages and raising prices.

"Drums

"Worst of all: the reactionary forces of the nation are already beating the drums for World War III. They are answering the call of Churchill, the tory imperialist, to establish an Anglo-American rule of white supremacy over the entire world.

"The Truman administration, which is joining hands with the British overlords of millions of colonial peoples, is allowing the Roosevelt program of world peace, security and expanding democracy to be cast aside.

"A similar reaction set in after the Civil War. Under the leadership of Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman and other Negro heroes, the recently freed slaves rallied to demand their rights as citizens. A series of Negro People's Conventions was held throughout the country. They were a leading factor in defeating the administration of Andrew Johnson who betrayed the policies of Lincoln. United together with the progressive white Americans, North and South, they brought about the progressive period of Reconstruction. Result - the only democratic state governments the South has ever known were elected.

"Without Label

"Today "made in U.S." rifles - without label - are sputtering out their grim song of death - against the Indonesian people. U.S., British and Dutch imperialism have clasped hands in a united program of oppression. Likewise in India the Middle East and Africa. The colonial peoples of our earth need help. Our help - your help - for today they are rising and fighting - in heed to history's urgent burning need. The peoples of America must also help. The fight against Jim Crow at home is a strike at colonial oppression everywhere.

"NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT! HERE IS THE WAY! We must mobilize the militant millions of our people for mass action - on picket lines, and at theballot box - to defeat the enemies of freedom and security.

"WE CALL UPON ALL LOCAL COUNCILS OF THE NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS; CHURCHES, FRATERNAL, CIVIC AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS; TRADE UNIONS AND ALL OTHER PROGRESSIVE ORGANIZATIONS OF OUR COUNTRY, TO SEND DELEGATES AND FATERNAL DELEGATES TO THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION OF THE NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS IN DETROIT, MAY 30th TO JUNE 2nd. LET'S COME TOGETHER, ORGANIZE, AND PLAN A PROGRAM OF ACTION.

"SEND IN ATTACHED REGISTRATION AT ONCE.

* * * *

"DRAFT PROGRAM

"Eleven Points for Freedom

1. Equal jobs and economic security for the Negro people. Immediate enactment of a permanent FEPC.

2. Develop and strengthen the working unity between the Negro people and in the trade union movement. Full support to the drive for organization of Negro and white workers in the South.

"3. Passage of the Wagner-Murray-Dingell Social Security Bill, the 65c minimum wage bill, and other measures on labor's legislative program.

4. Passage of the Anti-Poll Tax Bill.

5. An end to police and armed violence against Negro citizens and organized labor.

6. Pass the anti-lynch bill.

7. Full application of the GI Bill of Rights for Negro veterans and merchant seamen without discrimination.

8. Adequate housing, health protection and education without segregation or discrimination.

9. Protection of rights of Negro agricultural and farm labor and their rights to organize.

10. End discrimination in the armed forces.

11. Freedom for colonial peoples and American support to principles of UNO. U.S. friendship with the Soviet Union as a necessary means to peace.

* * * * *

"PROGRAM

"Thursday, May 30th - DORIE MILLER DAY

Registration and Housing

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Meeting of National Board and appointment of working committees for Convention.
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Opening, Detroit Art Exhibit Auspices: New Masses and Detroit Council, NNC.
8:00 PM	Keynote address to delegates and observers by prominent labor figures

"Friday, May 31st - HARRIET TUBMAN DAY

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Opening session
2:00 PM - 6:00 PM	Panel Discussions
8:00 PM	Negro Freedom Rally

Saturday, June 1st - CRISPUS ATTUCKS DAY

10:00 AM - 6:00 PM	Report on convention committees and panel reports
8:00 PM	Dance and Entertainment

Sunday, June 2nd - FREDERICK DOUGLASS DAY

11:00 AM - Noon	Non-sectarian Services
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Closing business session. Election of officers and of National Board.
5:00 PM	Adjournment.

****

---------- Convention Panels ----------

"Jobs and economic security	Veterans - Military Equality
Civil Rights	Women
Political Action	Youth
World peace and democracy	Council Building
Trade Union Action	Negro History, Culture and Education"

On March 30, 1946, an article appeared in the NEW YORK AGE newspaper which stated that REVELS CAYTON, executive secretary of the NNC, had announced the national convention of the NNC which was to be held in Detroit, Michigan, May 30th through June 2nd, 1946, and which it was believed would be attended by 1,000 national negro and white delegates from the 48 states representing labor, churches, city, state and national government, culture, consumer and educational fields. The article set out the eleven point program for the convention, which has previously been set out in this report.

On April 4, 1946, the DAILY WORKER carried an announcement by REVELS CAYTON of the coming national convention of the NNC. This article listed the program of the convention and listed a number of the sponsors of the conference which include a number of well-known Communist Party members.

The DAILY WORKER on April 17, 1946, carried an article concerning the national convention of the NNC, and which article stated that Congressman HUGH DeLACY and Congressman ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR. were among the prominent individuals who would address a huge freedom rally to be held in Detroit, May 31, 1946, by the NNC. This freedom rally is part of the program of the NNC's labor convention. The article stated in addition to these, the following would speak at this meeting:

BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, JR., New York City Councilman
(Member of National Board, Communist Party)

KEN ECKERT, National chairman
Dye Casting Division; Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, CIO

WALTER ERISBIE, Secretary
Industrial Union Council

On April 20, 1946, an article appeared in the NEW YORK AMSTERDAM NEWS concerning the national convention of the NNC, which article stated in part that the high-light of the conference would be a plea to the delegates to wage an all-out drive in support of the national CIO's campaign to organize labor, negro and white, in the South. This article listed the other parts of the program for the convention as set out previously.

The DAILY WORKER on April 24, 1946, carried an article which stated in part that KENNETH SPENCER, bass baritone, would entertain at the convention of the NNC.

The DAILY WORKER on April 24, 1946, carried a large article written by THELMA DALE, field secretary of the NNC, concerning the 10th anniversary convention of the Congress, and also concerning some of the history of the NNC. The article stated in part that in Washington, D.C. approximately one thousand members had been enrolled to date in the NNC Council headed by CHARLES A. HILL. It stated that the United People's Action Committee in Philadelphia, headed by ARTHUR HUFF FAUCET, had mobilized 1500 members in support of the U.E. and F.T.A. strikes and was now preparing itself for political action in the coming election in Pennsylvania.

It stated that in Camden, Trenton, Atlantic City, Jersey City, New Jersey, in Bridgeport, Connecticut, rallies and delegations to Washington have high-lighted the campaigns of local councils of NNC for passage of FEPC, for decent housing, and for justice in Columbia and Freeport.

It was stated that in New York City, two weeks previous, 53 Local CIO and AFL trade unions met in a unity conference called by the Negro Labor Victory Committee and the Manhattan Council of the NNC, and that the Negro Labor Victory Committee, after a formal vote of its board, urged its 107 local union affiliates to join the NNC and build a united organization in the Greater New York area that would deal effectively with the problems of negro and other minorities. Further, that this conference was a follow-up on a city-wide basis of the United Packinghouse Workers Conference called by the district leadership of the eastern region of the UPAC in March, 1946, which set up a Packinghouse Council of the NNC.

On May 11, 1946, the NEW YORK AGE, colored newspaper, carried an article which stated that PAUL ROBESON and GEORGE ADDES, secretary-treasurer of the United Automobile Workers of America, would be among the speakers at the national convention of the NNC.

On May 11, 1946, the NEW YORK AGE, colored newspaper, carried an article which stated that a request for radio time over the local Detroit and national facilities of the National Broadcasting Company, the American Broadcasting Company, the Mutual Network, and the Columbia Broadcasting Company, as well as local Detroit outfits, was made public by REVELS CAYTON, national secretary of the NNC.

PENDING

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

At Detroit, Michigan:

Will arrange informant coverage of the national convention of the NNC, May 30th through June 2, 1946, as requested in New York letter to Detroit dated April 18, 1946

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

At New York City:

Will continue to follow and report on the activities and growth of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS.

) (2-7-79)

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
June 11, 1946

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO. 66-1869

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

declassified by SP-1 GSK/RH 6/7/79

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE
CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT [redacted] b2 no
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
(Detroit Branch)
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto is office form FD 143 setting forth the justification for the continuance of the above-captioned technical surveillance.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin, SAC

CLZ:LMR
66-1869
Enclosure

ENCL
321
EX-63

RECORDED 61-6748
INDEXED 30 JUN 18 1946
EX-63
FIVE

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES
DATE 1/18/79

FD-148

United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Detroit, Michigan
June 11, 1946

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE No. 66-1869
DWP:LMR

JUSTIFICATION FOR CONTINUATION OF TECHNICAL
OR MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE

[redacted]

RE: Title NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS (Detroit Branch)

Character of Case INTERNAL SECURITY - C
Field Office Detroit
Symbol Number [redacted] b2
Type of Surveillance: (Technical or Microphone) b7D

1. Subject's name and address:

The National Negro Congress (Detroit Branch)
114 Erskine
Detroit, Michigan

2. Location of technical operation:

[redacted] b7E

3. Dates of initial authorization and installation:

Phone	Authorized	Installed
CAdillac 4993	2/13/46	4/25/46
CAdillac 7199	5/17/46	5/29/46

4. Previous and other installations on the same subject (with dates and places):

[redacted]

b7E
b2
b7D

5. Specific valuable information obtained since previous report with indication of specific value of each item and what use was made of each item of information involved:

Information concerning proposal of group to petition UNO to act to prevent discrimination against US Negroes obtained a week in advance and same furnished Bureau. Confirmation of plans to establish national headquarters of NNC in Detroit obtained.

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R 16 4 APR 24 1961

ENCLOSURE

6. Could above information have been obtained from other sources and by other means?

Not in advance of actual occurrence.

7. Has security factor changed since installation?

No

8. Any request for the surveillance by outside agency (give name, title and agency):

None

9. Manpower and costs involved:

[redacted]

b7E

10. Remarks (By SAC):

Within six months the national headquarters of this group is scheduled to move to Detroit. [redacted]

b7E

11. Remarks (added at Seat of Government):

In view of the information obtained by the Detroit Office from this technical surveillance and the extensive program on the part of the Communist Party to revitalize the National Negro Congress and its "front" activities, I recommend that this technical surveillance be continued.

12. Recommendation by Assistant Director:

There has been a definite increase in the Communist activity within this organization, a part of which appears to be of extreme national importance. I therefore recommend that this technical surveillance be continued.

13. Recommendation by the Assistants to the Director:

SAC, Detroit

July 3, 1946

Director, FBI

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
Internal Security - C
Technical Surveillance [redacted]

b2, b7D

Reference is made to your letter of justification dated June 11, 1946.

Authority is hereby granted to continue this technical surveillance for an additional sixty days. Prior to the expiration of this sixty-day period, a new form FD-143 should be submitted by your office.

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5 10 19 AM '46

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Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Carson
Egan
Gurnea
Harbo
Mendon
Pennington
Tamm
Tracy

JJC:mn

57 JUL 15 '46

) (2-7-79)

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Post Office Box 2118
Detroit 31, Michigan
May 31 - 1946

declassified by
SP-1 GSK/RH 6/7/79

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE [redacted] 62
CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT 67D
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

The above-captioned informant was established on April 25, 1946, on [redacted] and on May 29, 1946, on [redacted] respectively. 67E

CONF. INFT. CONF. INFT.

The Tenth Anniversary Annual Convention of the NNC is being held in Detroit, Michigan, May 30 through June 2, 1946, and, since the informant coverage was established, the information developed has almost wholly been in connection with the plans and arrangements for the scheduled convention. This has been of material assistance to this office in arranging for the necessary coverage.

The identity and activities of individuals who have been concerned with the formulation of the publicity, program, and policies of instant convention have also been made known to this office from this source.

On May 17, 1946, the informant advised that the NNC proposed to draw up a petition to be presented the UNO requesting action by that body to prevent acts of discrimination and segregation against the United States negroes. On the 24th of May, the informant advised this petition would be one of the major issues at the convention (Bureau so advised by teletype on May 24, 1946).

RECORDED & INDEXED 61 6723 547

Because of the fact that the whole energies of the NNC have been concentrated on the convention since the informant was established, it is not possible to assess the day by day return which will be gotten under normal conditions. However, there has been no change in the conditions set out in my letter dated January 30, 1946, when authorization for the coverage was requested.

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) OF
DATE 7/18/79

58 JUL 8 1946 COPIES DESTROYED
R 16 4 APR 24 1961

Letter to the Director
May 31, 1946

Re: TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE
CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT [redacted]
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

b7
b7D

[redacted]

b7E

It is my recommendation that the subject informant be continued.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin
Special Agent in Charge

DWP:lmk
66-1869

) (2-7-79)

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PETITION

66309

To the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations

A PETITION on behalf of the National Negro Congress of the United States of America for the elimination of political, economic and social discrimination against Negroes in the United States of America.

I. The Subject Matter of the Petition

The National Negro Congress, the petitioner herein, is a national organization in the United States of America, within the definition set forth in Article 71, of the Charter of the United Nations.

The subject matter of this petition is concerned with the "protection of minorities" and the "prevention of discrimination on grounds of race", within the purview of the Report of the Preparatory Commission and the Report of the Committee on the Organization of the Economic and Social Council, both cited hereinafter.

II. The Jurisdiction of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations

The basis and scope of the relation of the United Nations to the problem of racial oppression and the protection of minorities has been definitively stated in various official declarations and reports of the United Nations.

1. Reference: Preamble to Charter of the United Nations.

"We the people of the United Nations determined to reaffirm faith in fundamental rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small..."

2. Reference: Article 1, Sec. 3, Charter of the United Nations.

"The purposes of the United Nations are: To achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion."

3. Reference: Article 13, Sec. 1(b), Charter of the United Nations.

"The General Assembly shall initiate studies and make recommendations for the purpose of: promoting international cooperation in the economic, social, cultural, educational and health fields, and assisting in the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion."

ENCLOSURE

61-6[illegible]

4. Reference; Article 55, Sec. 1(c), Charter of the United Nations.

"With a view of the creation of conditions of stability and well-being which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, the United Nations shall promote: Universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion."

5. Reference; Article 62, Sec. 2, Charter of the United Nations.

"It (The Economic and Social Council) may make recommendations for the purpose of promoting respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all."

The medium through which the United Nations approaches the specific problem of social oppression and protection of minorities is the Economic and Social Council. In turn, it is through the Commission on Human Rights, a specialized Commission of the Economic and Social Council, that the functions of the United Nations upon this subject are to be exercised. The basis for this delegation of function is provided in Article 68, in the Charter of the United Nations, which states;

"The Economic and Social Council shall set up commissions in economic and social fields and for the promotion of human rights, and such other commissions as may be required for the performance of its functions."

Reference is further made to the Report of the Preparatory Commission of the United Nations, Chapter III, Sec. 4;

"Consideration and Recommendations Concerning the Organization of the Economic and Social Council".

15. Commission on Human Rights

In general the functions of the Commission would be to assist the Council to carry out its responsibility under the Charter to promote human rights. The studies and recommendations of the Commission would encourage the acceptance of higher standards in this field and help to check and eliminate discrimination and other abuses.

16. In particular the work of the Commission might be directed towards the following objects;

a) formulation of an international bill of rights.
b) formulation of recommendations for an international declaration or convention on such matters as civil liberties, status of women, freedom of information.
c) protection of minorities.
d) prevention of discrimination on grounds of race, sex, language or religion; and
e) any matters within the field of human rights considered likely to impair the general welfare or friendly relations among nations.

17. Studies and recommendations would be made and information and other services provided at the request of the General Assembly, or of the

Economic and Social Council, whether on its own initiative or at the request of the Security Council or of the Trusteeship Council."

66311

Reference is further made to the Report of the Committee on the Organization of the Economic and Social Council which met in London during February, 1946 and proposed the following resolution:

"Sec. A. The Economic and Social Council, being charged under the Charter with the responsibility of promoting universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion, and requiring advice and assistance to enable it to discharge this responsibility; Establishing a Commission on Human Rights.

2. The work of the Commission shall be directed towards submitting proposals, recommendations and reports to the Council regarding:

a) formulation of an international bill of rights.
b) formulation of recommendations for an international declaration or convention on such matters as civil liberties, status of women, freedom of information.
c) protection of minorities.
d) prevention of discrimination on grounds of race, sex, language or religion.

3. The commission shall make studies and recommendations and provide information and other services at the request of the Economic and Social Council.

The Charter of the United Nations further makes provision for direct consultation between the Economic and Social Council and non-governmental organizations in connection with its functions. Reference is made to Article 71, Charter of the United Nations:

"The Economic and Social Council may make suitable arrangements consultation with non-governmental organizations which are concerned with matters within its competence. Such arrangements may be made with international organizations and, where appropriate, with national organizations after consultation with the Member of the United Nations concerned." (underlining ours)

III. Proof in Support of the Petition

The evidence in support of this petition is set forth in full in the Document attached hereto and made a part hereof entitled, "The Oppression of the American Negro; The facts", which conclusively establishes that a condition has existed throughout the United States of America during its entire history and prevails at this time of the political, economic, and social discrimination against Negroes because of their race and color; resulting in the denial of equal democratic rights to 13,000,000 Negro citizens and requiring the consideration of the Economic and Social Council of

the United Nations.

Therefore, your petitioner respectfully prays that the Economic and Social Council through its Commission on Human Rights or otherwise; 66312

1. Make such studies as it may deem necessary of the conditions herein described as they exist in the United States of America, pertaining to political, economic and social discrimination against Negroes because of their race and color.

2. Make such recommendations and take such other actions as it may deem proper with respect to the facts herein stated, to the end that "higher standards" in the field of human rights may be achieved in the United States of America and "discrimination and other abuses" on the grounds of race and color, may be "checked and eliminated".

3. Take such other and further steps as may seem just and proper to the end that the oppression of the American Negro be brought to an end.

Respectfully submitted,

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
by

Dr. Max Yergan
President

Revels Cayton
Executive Secretary for
the National Board.

THE OPPRESSION OF THE AMERICAN NEGRO: THE FACTS

65313

(Prepared by Dr. Herbert Aptheker for the Tenth Anniversary Convention of the National Negro Congress, Detroit, Michigan, May 30 - June 2).

In the United States of America there are over thirteen million human beings restricted to a second-class citizenship, and subjected to a brutal system of oppression and discrimination based upon the inhuman, unscientific, Fascist Theory of "racism".

These statements shall be established by citing data obtained, in their entirety directly from official publications of the United States Government.

POPULATION:

The United States census of 1940 showed that of a total Negro population of 12,865,518, almost ten millions (9,904,619) lived in the South, 2,790,193 lived in the North, and 170,706 lived in the West.

A former Governor of South Carolina, and a member of the Senate of the United States for many years, Mr. Cole Blease, in speaking to his constituents, said: "God made that man the Negro to be your servant. The Negro was meant to be a hewer of wood and a drawer of water." While this is blasphemous as to the Lord's intention it is accurate as to the intentions, and accomplishments, of the class for which Mr. Blease spoke.

OCCUPATIONS:

The facts are that, in 1940, there were 4,475,089 Negro wage earners in the United States (1,542,273 of them women), and that the vast majority were "hewers of wood and drawers of water." Well over half (55%) were engaged in the two lowest paid and least protected of all occupations; that is, over one million (1,008,808) were domestic service workers, and almost one and a half million (1,447,082) were agricultural workers. Another half million (582,229) were engaged in "other service" work and still half a million more (464,195) were "operatives". This left a total of about 570,000 individuals to make up the manager, proprietor, professional and semi-professional, clerical, sales, foremen and craftsmen groups combined.

In 1940 seven out of every ten employed Negroes were engaged in unskilled work, and 94 out of every 100 employed Negroes followed manual pursuits. The proportion of unskilled workers amongst the Negro people was 35% greater than amongst the whites. Of course, these same census reports demonstrate that Negroes can, and do, perform all the functions of modern civilization, from accountant to architect, from editor to engineer, from physician to physicist, from surgeon to psychologist. Science has demonstrated, without any question, that the idea of inferiority is a deliberately concocted myth, so that these data substantiate nothing but the wholesale oppression of a myriad of peoples.

And not only are they, as a people, largely confined to the poorest paying occupations, but within these occupations they are paid less than others. This may be proven not only by every-day observation, and by official statistics, but it is the overtly expressed program of the oppressors. Thus, for example, a publication of the University of Kentucky declared in 1955: "An additional argument in favor of the salary differential between Negro and white teachers is the general tradition of the South that negroes and whites are not to be paid equivalent salaries for equivalent work." (italics added).

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FAMILY INCOME:

The earnings of the Negro people mirror their subordinate occupational status. As has been shown, the occupation engaging the greatest number of Negroes is agricultural work, confined, almost entirely, to the South. The family income of rural-farm families with a farm laborer as head of the household equalled in 1939 (last year for which complete official figures are available), $363 for the entire United States and $295 for the South. The respective figures for the white and the Negro in the South were $357 as compared with $254, and it may be added that over forty percent of these Negroes had a total yearly family income of less than $200.

An official survey of the over-all family incomes of America (for 1935-36) disclosed that the average (medium) yearly income per family in the rural South (including not only money income, but also income in kind and the imputed value of housing) was, for whites, $1,100 and for Negroes $480, or 44% as high. In Southern cities the respective figures were $1570 and $525, the Negro family thus obtaining one-third that of the white, while in North Central cities (population 100,000 and over) white families averaged $1,720 and Negro, $1,095. The meaning of these figures in human terms, will be somewhat more apparent when it is realized that, as of March 1935, the cost of a WPA emergency budget for a manual worker with a wife and two young children in Columbia, South Carolina was $845, in Mobile, Alabama, $815, in Atlanta, Georgia, $911, and in Columbus, Ohio, $940.

As of 1940, two-thirds of the Negro families in the United States earned less than $750 a year, and this was true notwithstanding the fact that about 2 in every 5 Negro women were in the labor force, in contrast to 2 in every 8 white women. Here too, it is important to note that the government, itself, declared that a city family of three needed, in 1941, an income of $1,475 "to cover current living expenditures" almost exactly twice that actually obtained by most of the urban Negro citizens.

HOUSING:

These statistics represent, of course, food, homes, life and death. Official publications have summed up some of the facts in a few succinct lines and figures. Thus, for housing, we are told: "...most Negroes have been unable to rent or own decent, safe, and sanitary houses in which to live and bring up their children."

Figures will make this concrete. In the United States, in 1940, there were 3,293,400 dwelling units for Negroes. Of these over one million (1,082,128) "needed major repairs", and almost two million (1,908,100) had no running water. Over twice as many Negro homes as white (35.1% and 16.3%) needed major repairs, and almost three times as many Negro homes as white (62.0% and 26.6%) had no running water. Twice as many white homes as Negro homes (62.9% and 43%) had electricity. All these figures are, of course, very much worse in the South, where the bulk of the Negro citizens live. Thus, to illustrate, it may be mentioned that well over 70% of all Negro homes in that area have neither electricity nor running water.

HEALTH:

This oppression cripples and kills. Sickness, which incapacitates for a minimum of one week, is 40% more common to the Negro than to the white. In 1940, while 46 out of every 1,000 white children born alive did not live to reach their first birthdays, 85 Negro children died during the same period. And the proportion of deaths for children from one to four years of age is almost twice as high for the Negro as for the white, while the maternal death rate is more than twice as high. Finally, while a white man could expect, in 1940, to reach almost 63 years, the Negro man's life expectancy was 52; and the figures for white and Negro women were 67 and 56 respectively. These figures, let this be perfectly clear, are "no more than a dif-

fference of mortality for different economic classes", they do not represent some innate "racial" characteristic. Moreover, as the Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor showed, the infant mortality rate for Negro families whose fathers earned less than $450 per year was practically the same (indeed, a little lower) than that for white families of a similar economic status.

EDUCATION:

The attempted degradation of this entire people involves, and is concentrated upon, unequal educational opportunities. This fact of undemocratic education may be demonstrated in dozens of different sets of official figures issued by all or some of those seventeen States where separate - Jim Crow - systems are required by law, and where the majority of the Negro people live.

The latest compilation coming from the United States Office of Education states: "Data for any given year show the wide differences which still exist in many states between educational opportunities for white and Negro children.

All phases and facets show this discrimination. Thus, for 1941-42, while the load per white teacher was about 28 pupils, it was 36 for the Negro teacher; while the average number of days a white child attended school was 144, it was 128 for the Negro; the average annual salary for the instructional staff (including supervisors, principles, and teachers) in Alabama was $923 for whites and $458 for Negroes in Arkansas $740 and $441, in Florida, $1,282 and $671, in Georgia $861 and $460, in Louisiana $1,303 and $547, in Mississippi $712 and $223, in South Carolina $1,038 and $465, in Virginia $1,183 and $765. The eleven Southern States that reported its expenditures on transporting Negro and white children to the schools spent a total of $1,328,025 for Negroes, while the single state of Alabama spent $1,974,018 to transport its white children. In this regard, South Carolina, whose Negro children number very nearly the same as the white children (212,630 to 265,520) spent $1,222,126 for transporting the latter and $6,691 for the former. Again, for "promotion of health" the State of Georgia spent $30,426 on its white children and $1,571 on its Negro children, though the latter equal well over half the former in total numbers. In terms of figures, one may summarize by stating that the level of support of the median classroom unit per year in the South for Negro schools equalled from $400 - $499, and for white schools it equalled $1,100 - $1,199 - and some people still prattle about "separate but equal" facilities.

The tragedy behind these statistics was fearefully brought before the American people during the late War. The percentage of draft registrants deferred because of educational deficiency (illiteracy) from May 18 to September 14, 1941 was eleven times greater for Negroes than for whites. This was, of course, the result of the educational system provided for them, and of nothing else. Thus, within fifteen States the rejection rate for Negroes was lower than the total percentage rate of white rejections, and in twenty-six Northern States, the rejection rates for Negroes was less than they were for the whites in ten of the Southern States.

This inequality of opportunity exists not only in elementary education, but also, and to an even greater degree, in higher education. This becomes crystal-clear when one realizes that, in 1940 the median school year completed by the Negro, throughout the country, was 5.7 while it was 8.6 for the white. Over 40% of the total Negro population, as of 1940, had been forced to complete no more than four years of formal education, as compared to 14% of the white population. The abominable situation has been summarized, officially, in this sentence: "There is a definite lack of availability of higher educational facilities for Negroes in those States maintaining separate schools."

OTHER PUBLIC SERVICES:

66316

Privileges and rights, other than education, normally associated with full American citizenship, are likewise very largely denied the Negro. Thus, to quote the summary remarks of a government publication: "...in cities paving, lighting, sewerage service and police protection often cease where the Negro residence section begins...In many areas there is no hospital service of any kind available to Negroes, and the medical and nursing service is often wholly inadequate if not lacking altogether." And, in many sections of the nation Negroes are "either excluded or permitted to occupy only some special section" so far as museums, art galleries, theaters, concert halls, public auditoriums, parks, gymnasiums, and swimming pools are concerned.

Library service for Negroes in the South (where, remember, over nine million Negroes live) is utterly insufficient. Thus, in 1939 there were in thirteen Southern States a total of 99 poorly equipped public libraries which served Negroes. This was less than one-seventh of all such institutions in the area, and meant that while 43% of the white people of the South are provided with public library service, but 21% of the Negroes have any such service.

CIVIL LIBERTIES:

There is unanimous agreement, by all observers and commentators, that fundamental legal rights, such as service on ordinary and grand juries, freedom from search and arrest except by warrant, and freedom from physical torture when in the hands of the law, are highly exceptional as concerns the vast majority of America's Negro citizens.

Nor is there any disagreement as to the fact that, in violation of all law, the majority of these citizens are deprived, by subterfuge and force, of the vital right of the suffrage. This fact is openly and proudly announced by the successful politicians foisted upon the South and the Nation by such an undemocratic system. Thus, to cite but one example, the present senior United States Senator from the State of Georgia, Walter F. George, wrote for publication, in 1937: "Why apologize or evade? We have been very careful to obey the letter of the Federal constitution - but we have been very diligent and astute in violating the spirit of such amendments and such statutes as would lead the Negro to believe himself the equal of the white man. And we shall continue to conduct ourselves in that way."

This disfranchisement affects, as it is meant to, the poor-Negro and white - and its results are clear. To cite an outstanding example: in the last Presidential election (1944) only 27.9% of the entire potential electorate of the thirteen Southern States actually voted, while 51.9% of the potential electorate of the other thirty-five States exercised their suffrage. The figures are even more arresting when one looks at the (then) eight poll-tax States for there (Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Arkansas, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, South Carolina) only 19% of the potential voters did. And remember, these percentages include both Negro and white people.

PEONAGE AND VIOLENCE:

No survey of the oppression of the American Negro, without very though it be, may neglect two other basic phenomena - peonage and violence. Neither of these is, as yet, subject to precise statistical presentation, but that both are widespread is unquestionable, and each deserves full, thorough investigation by groups independent of the dominant Southern cliques.

Reports of the existence of peonage have appeared and reappeared in the Ameri-

ness for fifty years. Some of it creeps into recent government publications, occasional indictments and even convictions of individuals suspected or guilty of the practice recur (there were seven Federal indictments and five convictions for peonage all involving Negroes, during the late War), eye-witness accounts appear in authentic studies, and, in 1939, the Social Service Committee of the Georgia Baptist Convention meeting in Augusta, declared that there were more people than held in debt-slavery or peonage than had ever been chattel-slaves in America.

85317

Agreement exists, too, that violence against Negroes is so common, particularly in the South, as to be institutionalized. Most publicized, of course, is the tactic of lynching, and while organized struggle against this bestial practice has undoubtedly reduced the frequency of its appearance, it still does occur and the threat of its use is very much alive.

Of greater importance, today, however, is the device of "dry lynching", the secret, unpublicized mutilation or destruction of an "undesirable" Negro by a small group of individuals (frequently, it is believed, officers of the law). From the nature of this device precise details and figures are not available, but it is significant that a study, in 1940, sponsored by four United States Congressmen, including Senator Wagner and Capper, by a "native white Southerner who must remain anonymous" states "that countless Negroes are lynched yearly, but their disappearance is shrouded in mystery, for they are dispatched quietly and without general knowledge." Other recent works have offered substantiating remarks, and this is certainly a type of barbarism that should be thoroughly investigated and absolutely extirpated.

CONCLUSION:

The effect upon the mental life of both the victims and the manipulators of this economic, social, political, and physical machine of oppression is only now beginning to be analyzed scientifically, but enough has already appeared to make clear the terrible urgency of the question.

The cancer of racism has spread its poison throughout the life of America. Its throttling and killing effect upon the people of the entire nation - North and South, Negro and white - grows more fearful and more anachronistic with the passing of each hour.

The Negro people, for themselves, and for the benefit of all other inhabitants of America, demand full freedom and absolute equality. Nothing short of this will satisfy them. Where one is enslaved, all are in chains.

*Ph.D. Columbia U., Member American Historical Society.

) (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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(serials)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK, N. Y. FILE NO. 100-220

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	7-16-46	1-26 Thru 7-10-46	[redacted] DG

b7C

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

NO
AUG
1946
69
STATISTICS

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [redacted] reports that the San Antonio council of the NNC had been inactive throughout the past five months. G. J. SUTTON, President of the local council attended the national convention of the Congress at Detroit, Michigan early in June, 1946.

b7D

- P* -

REFERENCE: Bureau File #61-6728.
Report of Special Agent [redacted] San Antonio dated 1-30-46.

b7C, D

DETAILS: AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

[redacted] advised that insofar as he could ascertain there has been no activity on the part of the San Antonio council of the National Negro Congress during the past five months. [redacted] stated that he understood that G. J. SUTTON, who was President of the San Antonio council, had sometime during June, 1946 attended a national convention of the Negro Congress at some northern city.

b7D, C

[redacted]

[redacted] advised that he learned [redacted] that early in June [redacted] made a trip to Detroit.

b7D

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: M. W. [illegible] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

61-[illegible]

RECORDED & INDEXED

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2 New York
1 ONI, New Orleans
1 SID, San Antonio
2 San Antonio

COPY IN FILE

JUL 19 1946

59 AUG 14 1946

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DATE 6/7/79 BY SP-1 GSK/RA

b7D

Michigan where he spent several days attending a national convention of the National Negro Congress. [redacted] was unable to obtain any details of the convention or any other information regarding it. He stated that he understood that a college fraternal group met occasionally at the funeral home of G. J. SUTTON [redacted] and at such meetings no activities of a radical nature transpired. [redacted] has never engaged in conversations which would reflect any radical beliefs on his part.

b7D

An Associated Press release which appeared in the San Antonio Light dated June 2, 1946 indicated that the National Negro Congress was holding its tenth anniversary convention at Detroit as of June 1, 1946, that some twenty-five hundred delegates were present and that one of the speakers at a negro freedom rally sponsored by the Congress on that evening was PAUL ROBESON, a member of the Congress, who called the present administration "the willing tool of corporate reaction turning with ever greater candor to the oppression of our people." According to this press release BENJAMIN DAVIS, JR., negro member of the New York City council and known member of the Communist Party in New York, also spoke at which time he said that the "forces of Imperialism are moving us into another war" and added, "We want to say to the Truman administration that we do not want such a war."

- P E N D I N G -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE SAN ANTONIO FIELD DIVISION

AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Will continue to follow and report the activities of the subject organization.

In line with current Bureau instructions, this case is being placed in a pending inactive status.

) (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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(2-7-79)

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
July 2, 1946

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO. 66-1869
DWP:meg

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

declassified by
SP-1 GSK/RH
6/7/79

Director, FBI

Re: TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE
CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT [redacted]
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS (Detroit Branch)
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

b2, b7D

Dear Sir:

The above-captioned informant was established on April 25, 1946, [redacted] The second phone was installed by the National Negro Congress to handle additional business in connection with their recent National Convention held here May 30, 1946 through June 2, 1946 and will, according to information received through Subject informant, be maintained until their annual membership drive, soon to be held, is completed. b7E

The National Negro Congress is a close affiliate of the Communist Party and its local executives are Communist Party members, the policies of the group more or less being dictated by the local Party functionaries. The extent and direction of the Communist Party control of the group is made known to this office through this informant as well as the identity of members and sympathizers of the National Negro Congress who are at present potential Communist Party affiliates.

Through this source of information, the extent and direction of the Communist Party efforts in the recent primary elections held here in Detroit was furnished this office. The local headquarters of the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America is maintained at the National Negro Congress offices and the activities of that group and the names of persons associated with it become available to this office.

The national headquarters of the National Negro Congress in accordance with the decision reached at the recent Annual Convention will, within six months, be moved to Detroit, Michigan.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY
SLIP (S) OF
DATE 7/18/79
Declass, LP

RECORDED & INDEXED

EX-42

F B I
AUG 7 1946

57 AUG 13 1946

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R 16 4 APR 24 1961

Letter Director, FBI
July 2, 1946

CONFIDENTIAL

Re: TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE [redacted] b2
CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT [redacted] b7D
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS (Detroit Branch)
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Subject informant will be exceedingly valuable in keeping this office advised as to the final arrangements made in this regard.

It is my recommendation that this informant be retained.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin
Special Agent in Charge

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

New York 7, New York

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO. _____

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

August 22, 1946

Director, FBI

RE: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

b7D

There are being forwarded herewith two copies of a report of [redacted] dated August 2, 1946, which reports on an anti-lynching demonstration held July 31, 1946 at Madison Square Park, New York City. This demonstration was sponsored by the National Negro Congress and the Congress for Civil Rights, and all of the speakers at this demonstration demanded that President Truman take immediate steps against the lynchers.

[redacted] b7D

The above is being furnished for the Bureau's information.

Very truly yours,

Edward Scheidt

EDWARD SCHEIDT
SAC

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/7/79 BY SP-1 GSK/RH

Enc. (2)

CFH:FAL
100-3633

cc: [redacted]

RECORDED
INDEXED

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) (2-7-79)

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FOR THIS PAGE
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Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice
Post Office Box 2118
Detroit 31, Michigan
August 5, 1946

JI

Director, FBI

Re: TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE
CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT [redacted]
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS (Detroit Branch)
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

62
670

Enclosed herewith is a letter of justification for F.D. 143 on above captioned technical surveillance.

EX-31

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

HANDLED BY
FLOP DESK

R. A. Guerin,
Special Agent in Charge

61-728-562

CMM:mcm
66-1869

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES DEFENSE BONDS AND STAMPS

INDEXED 1 AUG 2 1946

13

55 AUG 30 1946

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DATE 6/7/79 BY SP-1 GSK/RH

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

FD-143

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE No. 66-1869
Detroit

JUSTIFICATION FOR CONTINUATION OF TECHNICAL
OR MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE

RE: Title NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS (Detroit Branch)

Character of Case INTERNAL SECURITY - C
Field Office Detroit
Symbol Number [redacted]
Type of Surveillance: ~~Technical~~ or Microphone)

1. Subject's name and address:

The National Negro Congress (Detroit Branch)
114 Trumbull Street
Detroit, Michigan

2. Location of technical operation:

[redacted] b7E

3. Dates of initial authorization and installation:

	Authorized	Installed
[redacted]	2/13/46	4/25/46
	5/17/46	5/29/46

b7E

4. Previous and other installations on the same subject (with dates and places):

Technical surveillance maintained on Rackham Memorial Building, 100 Farnsworth, Detroit, Michigan, from May 30, 1946, through June 1, 1946, in connection with National Convention of Subject group held there those dates. Had symbol [redacted] b2 b7D

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/7/79 BY SP-1 GSK/RA

5. Specific valuable information obtained since previous report with indication of specific value of each item and what use was made of each item of information involved:
Contacts of NNC with the CP and the identities of NNC members most frequently in contact with the CP have become available as well as names of persons who are members of the NNC. Information concerning the program and identities of members of the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America.

ENCLOSURE

6. Could above information have been obtained from other sources and by other means?

No.

7. Has security factor changed since installation?

No.

8. Any request for the surveillance by outside agency (give name, title and agency):

None.

9. Manpower and costs involved:

[redacted]

b7E

10. Remarks (By SAC):

It is recommended that this informant be continued in view of the information furnished by the informant and also in view of the fact that it is expected that the National Headquarters of this organization will be moved to Detroit from New York City.

11. Remarks (added at Seat of Government):

It is recommended that this technical surveillance be continued for an additional sixty days in view of the fact it is reported that the National Negro Headquarters will be moved from New York City to Detroit, Michigan, in the near future and also in view of the current activities being conducted by this organization concerning the petition filed by them before the United Nations Conference as well as information in the Detroit area concerning the associations existing between Communist Party members and member

of the National Negro Congress. Also of importance is the information obtained concerning the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America, a Negro Communist veterans' front organization.

12. Recommendation by Assistant Director:

In view of the information set out above, it is my recommendation this technical surveillance be continued for an additional sixty days.

13. Recommendation by the Assistants to the Director:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/7/79 BY SP-1 GSK/RH

RECORDED & INDEXED

August 28, 1946 PERSONAL ~~AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Through investigation this Bureau has ascertained that the National Negro Congress has reorganized its Chapter in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. A technical surveillance on the Philadelphia Chapter of the Communist Front Group will provide information to indicate the extent of Communist Party control and the activity of individual negro Communists in the organization.

The National Negro Congress, which has recently been rejuvenated, is the leading negro Communist inspired organization in the United States today. Revels Cayton, the Executive Secretary of the National Negro Congress, was one of the speakers at the enlarged National Committee Plenum of the Communist Party, USA, held at the Hotel St. George, Brooklyn, New York, July 16, through 18, 1946. I recommend, therefore, that authorization be granted to install a technical surveillance on the Headquarters of the National Negro Congress at 2307 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Respectfully,

/s/ J. E. Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
AUG 29 12 18 AM '46

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Carson
Egan
Gurnea
Hendon
Pennington
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

cc: Mr. Ladd
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. J. D. Donohue (Rm. 1261)

JJC:MR

10:43
8/29/46

SEP 1946

FD-142

United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
500 Widener Building
Philadelphia, 5, Pennsylvania

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE No. 100-869.

RECOMMENDATION FOR INSTALLATION OF TECHNICAL
OR MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE

RE: Title C NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

Character of Case INTERNAL SECURITY - C
Field Office Philadelphia
Symbol Number
Type of Surveillance (Technical ~~Microphone~~)

1. Name and address of subject: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
2307 North Broad Street
Philadelphia, Pa.

2. Location of technical operation: [redacted] b7E

3. Other technical surveillances on same subject: None

4. Cost and manpower involved: No additional cost.

RECORDED 161-6728-563

5. Adequacy of security: Excellent

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/7/79 BY SP-1 GSK/RA

6. Type of case involved: Communist infiltration of the Philadelphia branch of the national negro organization.

7. Connection or status of subject in the case: The NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS is presently under reorganization in Philadelphia.

8. Specific information being sought: Extent of Communist Party domination and the activity of individual negro Communists in the organization.

9. Reasons for believing the specific information will be obtained by the technical surveillance: The secretary of the organization is on duty at office headquarters and transacts organizational business from this location.

10. Importance of case and subject: This case is of the utmost importance in the investigation of Communist infiltration of the negroes in this city.

11. Possibilities of obtaining desired information by other means (Explain in detail): Due to the race problem involved it is believed that no other source of information would prove as beneficial as the installation of a technical surveillance. It is not believed that the desired information could be obtained from any other source.

12. Risks of detection involved: None

13. Probable length of technical surveillance: Indefinite

14. Request made for technical surveillance by any outside agency (name specific official, title and agency): None

15. Remarks:

A technical surveillance in this case would be of invaluable assistance in following the reorganization of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS in Philadelphia.

16. Recommendation of Assistant Director:

The reorganized National Negro Congress has embarked on a program of expansion throughout the country. This group is very active in the formation and guiding of vererans' groups and at the present time is busily engaged in soliciting additional facts to add to their petition sent to the United Nations Conference which will reportedly serve as documentary evidence as race discrimination within this country. The organization at present is reorganizing its Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Chapter. In order to follow the local activities of this group, establish the extent of Communist control and to assist in the investigation of Communist element among the negroes at Philadelphia, it is recommended that this technical surveillance be installed. It should also be noted that this technical surveillance will be operated from [redacted] b7E Accordingly, there is attached hereto a memorandum to the Attorney General recommending that the installation of this technical surveillance be authorized.

17. Recommendation of Assistants to the Director:

FJS:VFH
100-869

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NUMBER _____

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

August 28, 1946 PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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REC
EX-19 61-6728-564

Respectfully,

J. Ed. Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
RECEIVED
AUG 29 1946

KEEP IN F. B. I. FILES
9/5/46 E.F.S.

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DATE 6/7/79 BY SP-1 GSK/RA

AUGUST 30, 1946 [redacted]

SAC PHILADELPHIA - URGENT

TECH SURVEILLANCE NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, IS DASH C. AUTHORITY GRANTED INSTALLATION TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE NNC, TWO THREE NAUGHT SEVEN NORTH BROAD STREET, PHILADELPHIA PROVIDED FULL SECURITY ASSURED. SUTEL TIME DATE INSTALLATION SYMBOL NUMBER,

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Originated at: NEW YORK, NEW YORK — DETROIT File No. 100-1049

Made at:	Date made:	Period:	Made by:
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	8/30/46	5/21, 22,26-31;6/3-7;7/12,17/46	[redacted] EDB

Title:	Character:
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS: The 10th anniversary annual convention of NNC held at Detroit, Michigan, May 30 through June 2, 1946. Seven hundred twenty-nine persons attended representing 23 states. Eighty-five per cent of delegates were representatives from trade union groups with actual NNC delegates being very few. Exhibition of works of Negro artists held in conjunction with convention under sponsorship of "New Masses." PAUL ROBESON featured speaker at Freedom Rally held night of May 31, 1946. 2,500 persons heard him give typical Communist Party line speech. Panels and commissions on matters of vital concern to Negroes held May 31 and June 1, 1946. Findings of same reported. Petition presented to United Nations Organization by NNC from this convention requesting action by that body to prevent discriminatory practices against Negroes in United States. UNO subsequently declined to take action, stating matter is of strictly domestic nature. MAX YERGAN, New York, re-elected National President; other elected officers reported. Theme of entire convention was calling for militant aggressiveness on part of Negroes to achieve their lawful rights and equality of treatment with NNC leading this struggle. Extensive expansion of NNC activities scheduled with national headquarters being moved from New York to Detroit, Michigan, in near future. Identified delegates listed. Evidence of Communist Party interest and control set out.

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REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated June 6, 1946, at New York, New York. b7c

DETAILS: At Detroit, Michigan:

I. PRE-CONVENTION ACTIVITY

The "Michigan Chronicle" dated October 27, 1945, reported that the 10th anniversary convention of the National Negro Congress would be held in Detroit early in the spring of 1946. The decision to hold the convention in Detroit was made at a meeting of the National Executive Board of the NNC held in New York City October 13, and 14, 1945. It was stated this would be the first convention to be held by the organization in six years.

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On April 18, 1946, the New York Office made available photostatic copies of pre-convention literature [redacted] This consisted of a letter signed by MAX BERGAN, President of the NNC, requesting the recipient to attend the scheduled convention as a delegate from their organization for the purpose of "evolving a program which, in helping to deal the death blow to Jimcrow in America, will strengthen our total fight for peace and democracy." This communication was countersigned by REBELS CAYTON as Executive Secretary of the NNC, and carried as an enclosure a tentative program and set forth eleven main points which the convention would seek to accomplish, they being as follows: b7D REVELS

1. Equal jobs and economic security for the Negro people. Immediate enactment of a permanent FEPC.

2. Develop and strengthen the working unity between the Negro people and the trade union movement.

3. Passage of the Wagner-Murray-Dingell Social Security Bill, the 65¢ minimum wage bill, and other measures on labor's legislative program.

4. Passage of the Anti-Poll Tax bill.

5. An end to police and armed violence against Negro citizens and organized labor.

6. Pass the anti-lynch bill.

7. Full application of GI Bill of Rights for Negro veterans and merchant seamen without discrimination.

8. Adequate housing, health protection and education without segregation or discrimination.

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9. Protection of rights of Negro agricultural and farm labor and their rights to organize.

10. End discrimination in the armed forces.

11. Freedom for colonial peoples and American support to principles of UNO. U. S. friendship with the Soviet Union as a necessary means to peace.

The scheduled program was as follows:

Thursday, May 30th - Dorie Miller Day

Registration and Housing

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Meeting of National Board and appointment of working committees for Convention.
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Opening, Detroit Art Exhibit Auspices: New Masses and Detroit Council, NNC.
8:00 p.m.	Keynote address to delegates and observes by prominent labor figures

Friday, May 31st - Harriet Tubman Day

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Opening session
2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Panel Discussions.
8:00 p.m.	Negro Freedom Rally

Saturday, June 1st - Crispus Attucks Day

10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Reports of convention committees and panel reports.
- 8:00 p.m.	Dance and Entertainment.

Sunday, June 2nd - Frederick Douglass Day

11:00 a.m. - Noon	Non-sectarian Services
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Closing business session. Election of officers and of National Board.
5:00 p.m.	Adjournment

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Convention Panels

Jobs and economic security
Civil Rights
Political Action
World peace and democracy
Trade Union Action
Veterans - Military Equality
Women
Youth
Council Building
Negro History, Culture and Education

The program listed the following persons as sponsors of this scheduled convetion:

JAMES EGERTON ALLEN, Chairman, N. Y. State Cont., NAACP Branches New York

S. L. M. BARLOW, Forum for Democracy, New York

HARRY BRIDGES, President, Int'l Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union, CIO, California

HUGH BRYSON, Vice President, Marine Cooks & Stewards, CIO, California

SOPHONSISBA P. BRECKENRIDGE, School of Social Service, Univ. of Chicago, Illinois

E. F. BURKE, President, Marine Cooks & Stewards, CIO, California

GWENDOLYN BENNETT, Director George Washington Carver School, New York

OLIVER BOUTTE, Port Agent, National Maritime Union, CIO, California

HON. JANE M. BOLIN, Justice, Domestic Relations Court, New York

DR. CHARLOTTE HAWKINS BROWN, Pres., Palmer Memorial Inst., North Carolina

RICHARD CAMPLIS, President, Local 2, ILWU, CIO, California

LOUIS COLMAN, Secretary, Int'l Labor Defense, New York

CHARLES COLLINS, Vice President, Hotel and Restaurant Employees Int'l Alliance, AFL, New York

HON. EUGENE P. CONNOLLY, City Councilman, New York

MATT CRAWFORD, Asst. Director, San Francisco Council for Civic Unity, California

EARL B. DICKERSON, Alderman Illinois

HON. BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, Jr. City Councilman, New York

FRANK MARSHALL DAVIS, Associated Negro Press, Illinois

JAMES A. DOMBROWSKI, Southern Conference for Human Welfare. Tennessee

DR. ARNOLD DONAWA, Chairman, North Harlem Dental Association, New York

AARON DOUGLAS, Fisk University Tennessee

MURIEL DRAPER, Chairman, Committee of Women, National Council for American-Soviet Friendship, New York

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WALTER K. ECKLUND, President, Sacramento CIO Council, California

SEBA ELDRIDGE, Univ. of Kansas, Kansas

ARTHUR H. FAUSET, President United People's Action Committee, Pennsylvania

ABRAM FLAXER, President, State, County & Municipal Workers, CIO, New York

JAMES W. FORD, National Board, NNC, New York

WALTER FRISBIE, President, Indiana Industrial Union Council, Indiana

REV. STEPHEN H. FRITCHMAN, Editor, Christian Register, Massachusetts

DAISY S. GEORGE, Business Agent, Local 6, HREIA, AFL, New York

ELINOR S. GIMBEL, Chairman, Congress of American Women, New York

LOUIS GOLDBLATT, Secretary-Treasurer, ILWU, CIO, California

FOWIER HARPER, Indiana Univ. Law School, Indiana

WILLIAM HARRISON, Associate Editor, Boston Chronicle, Massachusetts

DONALD HENDERSON, President, Food, Tobacco & Agricultural Workers, CIO, Pennsylvania

WILLIAM R. HENDERSON, CIO Sub-Regional Director, Arkansas

LYNDON HENRY, Furriers Joint Council, New York

REV. CHARLES A. HILL, Michigan

LANGSTON HUGHES, Poet, New York

HON. STANLEY M. ISAACS, City Councilman, New York

DAVE JENKINS, Director, California Labor School, California

DR. DAVID D. JONES, President, Bennett College, North Carolina

JAMES JONES, Business Agent, Local 2, ILWU, CIO, California

ADA B. JACKSON, Chairman, Brooklyn Interracial Assembly, New York

HON. ANNA M. KROSS, Magistrate New York

ROCKWELL KENT, President, Int'l Workers Order, New York

JOHN HOWARD LAWSON, Playwright California

CANADA LEE, Actor, New York

REV. WILLIAM HOWARD MELISH, Minister, New York

PATRICK S. MERINEY, President, Detroit Nat'l Lawyers Guild, Michigan

SAMUEL J. MONOVICK, Electronics Corporation, New York

BOYD E. PAYTON, President, Maryland-D. C. Industrial Union Council, Virginia

DR. CHARLES A. PETIONI, President West Indies Nat'l Council New York

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MERVYN R. THORNE, Secretary, California State Industrial Union Council, California

DR. IRA DE A. REID, Dep't of Sociology, Atlanta U., Georgia

J. R. ROBERTSON, Vice President, ILWU, CIO, California

WILLIAM J. SCHIEFFELIN, Civic Leader, New York

C. LeBRON SIMMONS, Ass't Prosecuting Att'y, Wayne County, Michigan

CHARLES N. SMOLIAKOFF, Director, Florida State CIO Council, Florida

HENRY WINSTON, National Committee, Communist Party, New York

In its issue of April 13, 1946, the "Daily Worker" reported that 44 local unions in the New York area had already pledged themselves to send delegates to subject convention.

The "Wage Earner" for April 19, 1946, this being the weekly paper published by the Associated Catholic Trade Unions in Detroit, reported that REBELS CAYTON, Executive Secretary of the NNC, was canvassing the labor unions in Detroit in an attempt to get them to send delegates to the scheduled convention of the NNC, and it was commented that nationally known Communists and fellow-travelers were listed as the principal speakers and sponsors of the convention.

The comment was also made on the fact that the NAACP, the oldest organization among American Negroes in the country, was not participating in this convention.

The Detroit edition of the "Pittsburgh Courier" for May 11, 1946, reported that the forthcoming NNC convention would feature PAUL ROBESON, GEORGE ADDES, Secretary Treasurer of the UAW-CIO; Congressman HUGH DELACY of Washington; ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, Jr., of New York City; and BENJAMIN DAVIS, Jr., New York City Councilman, at a Freedom Rally to be held in conjunction with the convention on the evening of May 31, 1946.

The majority of the pre-convention publicity appearing in the local Negro press and the white press was centered around the appearance of the aforementioned individuals and apparently they were considered by the NNC as being their featured attraction.

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On May 13, 1946, [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, reported that LAWRENCE BURNSTEIN of New York City had arrived in Detroit to handle the publicity for the National Negro Congress conference scheduled here May 31 through June 2. [redacted] One of BURNSTEIN'S major concerns at this time was the housing problem which since instant convention was scheduled to

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take place the same time as the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the Automotive Industry and would thereby make it very difficult to obtain housing for the delegates. [redacted]

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On May 20, [redacted] stated that SHELTON TAPPES, labor functionary in Ford Local 600, UAW-CIO, and fellow-traveler of the CP, was canvassing unions in Ohio and Indiana attempting to line up delegates to attend the NNC Convention.

The "Daily Worker" for May 26, 1946, carried a rather lengthy article written by BENJAMIN DAVIS, Jr., identified as the Communist Councilman from the Buro of Manhattan, in which he castigated the white press for failing to give publicity to the scheduled NNC convention even though press releases had been regularly sent to all newspapers and associated press and united press news services. He attributed their failure to report these news releases to a "hope the Congress will fail" and stated "they would like to see no delegates, no program against Lynch terror in America, no drive against Jim Crow and anti-semitism, no unification of the Negro people with their labor and progressive allies to combat the program of domestic fascism engendered by the big trusts."

He further stated that the papers were far more interested in slandering the Soviet Union, running down the trade unions, baiting the Communists, insulting the Negroes and beating the drums for war, than in giving deserved publicity to the NNC convention.

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[redacted] On May 29 and 30, 1946, a group of 50 delegates to the NNC convention had met at Ford Local 600, UAW-CIO, for the purpose of discussing ways and means of establishing a trade union committee in the NNC in order to get trade union support for the Negro people's movement. The appointment of such a committee has not to date come to the attention of this office.

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II. CONVENTION PROCEEDINGS

A. FIRST SESSION, THURSDAY, MAY 30

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1. Registration of Delegates

DONT INF[redacted] reported that the delegates to the convention were being registered at 114 Erskine, Detroit, which is the local office for the NNC, all day May 30, 1946, as they arrived in Detroit and reported to that address. They were assigned housing and instructed to report to the first assembly at 8:00 p.m. that evening and advised of the fact that an art exhibit of works by prominent Negro artists had been formally opened at 5:00 p.m. at the Urban League.

2. National Negro Congress and New Masses Sponsored Exhibits of Works by Negro Artists

The Detroit "Free Press" for May 31, 1946, reported that an art exhibit featuring the works of leading Negroes and white painters was inspected by the delegates to the NNC convention at the Urban League, 208 Mack, Detroit.

The "Eight-Miler", a now defunct Communist-directed Negro publication, reported in its issue of May 18, 1946, that this art exhibit would be held and that DORETTA TURNON of "New Masses" was chairman of the Arrangements Committee, and quoted her as saying that the purpose of the art exhibit was to emphasize the great contribution of the Negro artists to American culture. It was proposed to sell the exhibited works and seventy-five per cent of the sale price going to the artists and the remainder being used to establish a fund for permanent major projects for Negro artists in America.

The "Daily Worker" for April 24, 1946, reported that the sponsoring Committee of the art exhibit consisted of JOHN SLOAN, Painter; W. E. D. DUBOIS, educator, author and NAACP leader; and C. LEBRON SIMMONS, President of the Detroit Council, NNC.

This art exhibit was held as scheduled and was open during the entire convention but the actual sale of any of the works exhibited did not come to the attention of this office and it is believed that the exhibit did not result in a financial success to the sponsors.

3. The First Assembly

The first assembly of the delegates to the convention was held at 8:00 p.m. at the Bethel Methodist Church on the corner of Frederick and St. Antoine. Representatives from the CP locally were selling copies of the "Daily Worker" to the delegates as they arrived at the church and according to [redacted]

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the same group was scheduled to sell this paper at all meetings of the convention.

The program for the convention reported that C. LEBRON SIMMONS, President of the Detroit Council, NNC, would preside at this first assembly and that the invocation would be offered by the Rev. J. A. DANES, Pastor of the church wherein the assembly was held.

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[redacted] The official minutes of the convention issued by the NNC and [redacted] reported that Mr. H. FAZAL ELAHI ZURBAN, a representative of the India Trade Union Communists; LESTER DAVIS of the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America (UNAVA); DONALD HENDERSON, General President of the Food, Tobacco and Agricultural Workers of America, AFL; and Dr. MAX YERGAN, National President of the NNC, were the speakers at this assembly and claimed that approximately 2,000 people were present.

In addition to the above-mentioned individuals, the program stated that JAMES DOMBROWSKI, Secretary of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare; JOHN B. SIMMONS, Councilman from Toledo, Ohio; HAROLD MOOREHEAD, Employment Director of the Hotel Front Service Union, AFL; and the Rev. ERNEST ARTHUR of the Institute of Applied Religion in Detroit, would appear.

B. SECOND SESSION, FRIDAY, MAY 31

1. General Business Meeting

The convention delegates met at the Rackham Memorial, 100 Farnsworth Street, at 10:00 a.m., Friday, May 31, 1946. The meeting opened with addresses by Dr. MAX YERGAN, National President; and REBELS CAYTON, National Executive Secretary. A synopsis of their remarks [redacted] as follows:

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"Dr. MAX YERGAN, President Presiding - REVELS CAYTON, Executive Secretary

"Organization outlined as a spearhead in fight for democratic rights of the Negro masses with great emphasis upon the workers.

"The Negroes of the supposed upper strata (i.e.) our progessional groups who do not realize the need of complete unity among the masses and feed upon the labor of the masses, must be exposed for the parasites they are, for it is within this group that the division of our forces suffer most.

"The Congress has always from its earliest inception played a vital and definite role in the full rights of Negroes in labor as well as democratically and economically in the overall structure of Negroes everywhere - and it will continue that fight with the full support of the policies we shall lay down here at this convention.

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"The Negro veterans bitter realization of democracy in his struggle for readjustments, has added another problem to our fight, but one in which he will always find us supporting him in every way possible, such as housing - veterans' educational program, jobs and hospitalization - these and many others are what he is fighting for now, and we must see that he gets his full measure of these advantages.

"The Congress must play a definite role in organizing the south and it has a major responsibility in that the Negro offers one of the strongest forces for organized labor in the south.

"The organization of trained leadership of Negroes in the south a necessity for close collaberation with his northern brothers for there has existed a fear and distrust that must be overcome, and only through competent leadership will it be accomplished.

"The Congress must go on record in its fight for the economic freedom of the colonial people everywhere, for so long as the Negro remains in economic slavery anywhere it will be felt by Negroes everywhere and no greater opportunity to test the policies of the U.N. than this great question will afford, and I trust that during this convention some steps will be taken in that direction and the frame work laid for its presentation.

"To undertake the great tasks that have been outlined here by me the Congress is launching a membership drive of 100,000 new members in six months and we are asking for $60,000 emergency fund to be raised in six months, $80,00 for annual budget.

REVELS CAYTON, Executive Secretary

"Outlined organizational program of the Congress and pledged the Congress in attack of all elements against the struggle of the common people.

EDW. E. STRONG, former Executive Secretary, was introduced to convention delegates. Announcement of panels and locations for noon session. Adjournment for lunch."

2. The Organization of Panels and Commissions

Following the remarks by REBELS CAYTON and introduction to the platform of EDWARD E. STRONG, former Executive Secretary of the NNC prior to his induction into the armed forces, the convention adjourned for lunch and upon re-assembling it at 1:00 p.m. the delegates were assigned to the various panels and commissions which they desired to participate in.

The following panels were held:

1. Jobs and economic security
2. Health and housing
3. Civil Rights
4. The Youth

The following commissions were organized.

1. Veterans
2. Women
3. World Peace
4. Youth
5. Trade Unions
6. Political Action

Information concerning the persons leading the discussions in these various panels and commissions and those who had been assigned to lead the discussions will be reported subsequently in this report when the findings of the various groups are set forth.

3. The Freedom Rally

A Negro Freedom Rally was held in the auditorium of the Cass Technical High School from 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. during Friday, May 31. The Detroit "Free Press" for June 1, 1946, reported that praise for Russia as a peace maker and a stinging rebuke of President TRUMAN featured an address at this rally by PAUL ROBESON, prominent Negro baritone. It stated he addressed a delegation of 2,500 cheering people at this rally and quoted him as saying "the leaders of our country asked for the power to act as a strike breaker for the profit-swollen corporations, with the United States Army and Navy now being mobilized to break the coming strike of the Maritime Union. Those who own our economy and dominate our Government are frantic. They have just seen the power of Negro and white workers united."

ROBESON also called Russia the "most powerful and consistent force for peace in the world today." The above address by ROBESON was broadcast over a national hook-up.

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[redacted] who attended this rally, reported that in addition to the ROBESON address, CHARLES COLLINS, Local 6 of the AFL, spoke describing the discrimination against Negroes by stating that whereas the AFL was formerly guilty of discrimination that now the union has improved and invites all Negroes to become members.

BERTHA WICKER, a Negro maid from Washington, D. C., spoke and related the efforts on the part of women to eliminate discrimination against the Negro. She was followed by EDDIE STINSON who represented the

the CIO from California and urged the organization of both whites and Negroes in unions together.

Thereafter GEORGE ALLEN, representing the GM Local of the UAW-CIO, spoke along the same lines of elimination of discrimination in the unions against Negroes.

BENJAMIN DAVIS, Jr., Communist City Councilmen from New York, spoke and described how President TRUMAN was taking the rights away from the working people by his present actions and was therefore unfit to receive the vote of the working class to become our next President.

The final speaker, according to the report of [redacted] was GEORGE ADDES, functionary of the International UAW-CIO, who spoke generally on the matter of discrimination against the Negro. b7D

The minutes of the convention as issued by the NNC reported that Mrs. ROBBIE MAE RIDDIC, Vice President of FTA, CIO; KENNETH ECKERT, of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union; and the Rev. CHARLES HILL, President of the Detroit Chapter of the NAACP, also spoke at this Freedom Rally and it is reported that Mr. ROBESON rendered two groups of workers' songs and that the Dupre Choir also rendered two vocal groups. Dr. MAX YERGAN presided at this rally.

C. THIRD SESSION, SATURDAY, JUNE 1

1. The Petitioning of the United Nations Organization To Act in Case of Discrimination Against American Negroes

The delegates at 9:30 a.m. convened at the Horace Rackham Memorial, 100 Farnsworth Street. Although commission meetings were scheduled in the morning, the entire morning was taken up by the presentation to the convention by Dr. MAX YERGAN of a petition which had been prepared for the NNC by Dr. HERBERT APTHEKER, a member of the American Historical Society and PHD from Columbia University. This petition was addressed to TRYGVE LIE, Secretary General of the United Nations Organization, and requested that body to act to bring relief from oppression to the thirteen million Negroes in the United States, and commenced as follows:

"It is with an expression of profound regret that we, a section of the Negro people, having failed to find relief from oppression through constitutional appeal, find ourselves forced to bring this vital issue, which we have sought for almost a century since the emancipation to solve within the boundaries of our country, to the attention of this historic body and to request you and the Secretary General to place this for consideration before the economic and social council or to that body which in your understanding it may belong."

The petition pleaded for the UNO to (1) make such studies as it may deem necessary of the political, economic, and social discrimination against Negroes; (2) make such recommendation and take such other actions as it may deem proper with respect to the facts stated to the end that higher standards in human rights may be achieved in the United States and that discrimination and other abuses on the grounds of race and color may be checked and eliminated; (30 to take such other and further steps as may seem just and proper to end the oppression of the American Negro.

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This petition was a lengthy paper and cited instances after instance of actual alleged acts of oppression against the Negroes. A copy of it was obtained from [redacted] and furnished to the Bureau by airmail special delivery for its information.

A paper entitled "The Oppression of the American Negro" also prepared by Dr. APTHEKER and from which the alleged acts of oppression cited in the petition were obtained, has come into the possession of this office and is being furnished the office of origin as an enclosure in this report for its information.

Along with the petition to the UNO, a letter was sent to President TRUMAN expressing regret that the Negro people had found it necessary to submit that petition and stating that his administration had reversed the democratic program of the former President ROOSEVELT.

The proposal by Dr. YERGAN to submit this petition to the UNO and the accompanying letter to the President were approved by the convention with one dissenting vote which was subsequently withdrawn in order that unanimous consent might be reported. It was also voted that copies of the petition be sent to all nations and all anti-fascist groups and [redacted] it was proposed that a $100,000 fund be raised by the NNC to publicize this petition and a special UNO Committee was voted to be appointed within the NNC with DOROTHY FUNN of Washington, D. C. to function as chairman.

In addition to the letter addressed to President TRUMAN and the letter enclosure to Mr. TRYGVE LIE, a letter was also submitted to Mr. EDWARD STETTINIUS, UNO representative of the United States, requesting his support of the petition.

HOWARD MAYHEW of Local 719, CIO, Chicago, in addressing the convention in favor of voting for the petition, stated that the value in presenting this petition to the United Nations was not in the action that the group itself would take on the petition but that it would prove that the UNO was ineffective. He stated that the U.S.S.R. was participating in the UNO solely as a "window dressing move" and worked on the theme that the main drive of Great Britain and the United States in the UNO is to stir up a war against the Soviet Union.

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In connection with this petition, [redacted] b7D press release from the National Headquarters of the NNC dated June 28, 1946, which stated in order to obtain additional material on the oppression of the American Negro, the NNC would hold a series of nation-wide Peoples' Tribunals to take additional testimonies regarding current acts of oppression, these Tribunals to be held in cooperation with all similarly interested groups.

This release also reported a meeting on June 6, 1946, between PETRUS J. SCHMIDT, Secretary of the Commission on Human Rights of UNO and a Committee from the NNC consisting of Dr. YERGAN, REBELS CAYTON, CHARLES A. COLLINS, Vice President, NNC, and Dr. HERBERT APTHEKER, Executive Board Member of the NNC and author of the petition, at which the committee requested to be advised of the action the United Nations proposed to take in regard to the petition.

Mr. SCHMIDT had expressed interest in it and requested more material which resulted in the above-described Peoples' Tribunal being planned, but stated that he did not believe any action would be taken by the UNO in this matter since it was purely a domestic issue.

It was also reported in this release that DOROTHY K. FUNN, Washington, had assumed the post of Director of the UNO petition campaign and that thousands of petitions would shortly be issued in a nation-wide drive to obtain several million individual signatures thereto.

Instant press release is being furnished the office of origin as an enclosure for their information.

2. Panel and Commission Reports

a. Jobs and Economic Security Panel

Cochairmen of this group were listed on the program as SHELTON TAPPES, Local 600, UAW-CIO, and DAISY GEORGE, Business Agent, Hotel and Club Employees Union, AFL. The discussion leader was MARCEL SHERER, Representative of District 4, EURMWA, CIO. The Resource Panel was composed of THOMAS RICHARDSON, International Vice President, UPW-CIO; ERNEST THOMPSON, Vice President, Hudson Motors, New Jersey, CIO Council, and JOHN HOLTON, UNAVA, from Hartford Connecticut.

The findings of this panel as recorded in the meetings of the NNC were: (1) To break into new fields of employment and break down all bars to the employment of Negroes in industry. In connection with this it was proposed to select one particular industry for an intensive campaign. (2) To insist that the Federal and State undertake a wide-spread program for vitally needed public works and improvements to provide jobs for unemployed war-workers and veterans and to operate the large industrial establishments built during the war and now closed. (3) To maintain the war-time gains by Negroes in industry with particular effort made to solicit the aid and cooperation of the unions to achieve this.

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(4) To see that job referals by the U.S.E.S. and Unemployment Compensation Commission are made without discrimination and that Negroes are referred to jobs commensurate with their skills. (5) To organize with unions and veterans groups to see that returning Negro veterans are given the opportunity to use skills acquired during the services in the armed forces. (6) To continue to fight vigorously for permanent F.E.P.C. and to work for state and municipal F.E.P.C. ordinances. (7) To establish a trade union department within the NNC in order to work more closely with union groups.

b. Health and Housing Panel

The cochairmen of this panel were listed as C. FRANCIS STRATFORD, Chicago, Illinois; ELEANOR GODING, President, New York Local 1, UPW, CIO. Discussion leaders: Dr. FRANK S. HORNE, Federal Public Housing Administrator and the Resource Panel consisted of Dr. BOOKER T. McGRAW, National Housing Administration, Attorney FRANK SHERER, President of the Vanguard League, Columbus, Ohio, ANN BERENSON, Housing Commission, UAW-CIO, WINIFRED NORMAN, Vice President, AYD; COLEMAN YOUNG, Vice Commander, UNAVA.

According to the minutes issued by the NNC, the housing report by this group was incomplete and so was not issued, but in the matter of health there were the following recommendations to be adopted: (1) Clean up areas that bred malaria and other diseases by Federal or State action; (2) Conduct in each locality action to guarantee strict enforcement of sanitary laws; (3) Work for the complete elimination of child labor; (4) Institute a vigorous and militant program of action to end discrimination in existing hospitals and other health facilities; (5) Work with other groups seeking to raise the health standards and to seek adequate health facilities, also to work for the passage of the Murray, Wagner, Dingal Bill.

c. Civil Rights Panel

Co-chairmen of this group were listed as Dr. ARTHUR HUFF FAUSET, Chairman of the United People's Action Committee, NNC, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Attorney SAMUEL NEUBURGER, Civil Rights Attorney, NNC. The discussion leader was MILTON KAUFMAN, Executive Secretary, Civil Rights Congress. The Resource Panel consisted of Attorney SAMUEL FALKNER, Council for Committee of Justice in Freeport, Long Island; SAUL PLAIR, Chief Defendant, Columbia, Tennessee; PHILLIS CONOLY, Secretary, Los Angeles, CIO, Council; JEANETTA WELCH BROWN, President, Detroit Association of Women's Clubs; EYART QUINIER, Vice President, New York District, UPW-CIO.

The official minutes of the convention state that a full report of the Civil Rights Panel has not as yet been issued but that the basic recommendation of the group was that the NNC work for justice in connection with the campaign being conducted in Freeport, Long Island, relative to the alleged

murder there and a similar campaign being conducted in this connection with the race riots which occurred in Columbia, Tennessee. They should work for full citizenship rights for the Negro, for his complete right of franchise, for the end of police terror in all forms and passage of the anti-poll tax and anti-lynching bill.

d. The Youth Panel

Cochairmen of this panel were RAYMOND DENNIS, Chairman of the Cleveland Council, NNC, and HOSEA HUDSON, United Steel Workers, CIO, Birmingham, Alabama. The discussion leader of this group was RAYMOND TILLMAN of the Transport Workers Union, New Orleans, Louisiana; and the Resource Panel consisted of OSCEOLA McKAIN, Chairman of the Progressive Democratic Party, South Carolina; OLIVER T. PALMER, Vice President, Industrial Union Council, Washington, D. C., Rev. OWEN WHITFIELD, Regional Director, UNAVA, Mrs. M. GARDNER, Food, Tabacco and Agricultural Workers, CIO, Winston Salem, North Carolina, KATHERINE SHRYVER, Executive Secretary of the National Committee to Abolish the poll tax.

Recommendtions of this penel, according to the minutes of this conference, were the adoption of a resolution which stated in part that the systemic exploitation of the twelve million Negro people living in the south who are subjected to Jim Crow, disfranchisement, terror and improverishment must stop and that any plan for overcoming the special problems of the Negro must be based upon building powerful and militant peoples' organizations throughout the south, including labor unions, and that the NNC mobilize all its forces for building a powerful and militant NNC throughout the south with the NNC branches so established cooperating fully with the union groups in the south. Participants in this panel pleaded to raise a special fund of $60,000 for the advancement of the activities of the NNC in the south.

e. Veterans' Commission

67D

This commission, according to [redacted] was led by COLEMAN YOUNG and LESTER DAVIS, both associated with the UNAVA and from the Detroit and Chicago branches respectively.

The official minutes record that as a result of the recommendations of this commission, the convention went on record as unqualifiedly endorsing UNAVA as the means of solving the special problems of the Negro veterans and as a basic instrument in the realization of the full rights of the Negro people and therefore all people.

In addition to the above endorsement it was recommended that all NNC chapters support all veterans' programs and condemn "President TRUMAN'S insult to the honorable service of the millions of veterans, living and dead, of the war against Fascism by his proposed HITLER-like utilization of the armed

forces of our country as storm trooper, union busting agencies." This would refer in particular to the proposal of the President to use the armed forces of the country in the event of the Maritime strike.

It was also voted by the convention that an immediate end of all discrimination within the armed forces because of race, creed, color, sex, political affiliation and national origin be eliminated and that all units of service be open to all groups with appropriate changes being made in the Articles of War and Navy regulations so that these demands might be guaranteed.

f. Women's Commission

THELMA DALE, National Secretary of the NNC and ADA JACKSON, identifying data not available, led the discussion of the Women's Commission, [redacted]

The convention adopted the recommendations of its commission that a National Women's Commission of the NNC be established in order to facilitate the complete emancipation of Negro women. With this resolution the commission diverged completely from the subject of women and recommended such resolutions as the passage of the OPA, adequate housing, right of workers to organize, etc. One resolution which was applicable was equal pay for women for doing the same work as men.

g. World Peace Commission

b7D

EDWARD STRONG was reported by [redacted] to head the World Peace Commission. He was from New York City and prior to his service in the armed forces was National Executive Secretary of the NNC. He has now re-affiliated himself with that organization. No report of the findings of this commission was contained in the official minutes of the convention issued by the NNC and none otherwise came to the attention of this office.

h. Youth Commission

b7D

[redacted] advised that PATRICK GARLAND, not known to this office, and WINIFRED NORMAN of New York City, National AYD functionary, led the discussion of the Youth Commission.

The findings of this group as reported in the official minutes of the convention were the recommendations that the convention vote to set up a Youth Department within the NNC to work for the solution of special problems confronting Negro youth. This recommendation was adopted by the convention with the commission promising to furnish a more complete report of their findings at a later date.

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i. Trade Union Commission

Information was not received concerning the leader of this commission and no report concerning its findings was contained in the official minutes of the meeting of the convention of the NNC nor otherwise became known to this office.

j. Political Action Commission

b7D

This commission, [redacted] advised, was chaired by JOHN GOODMAN, identity unknown to this office, and TOMMY RICHARDSON, likewise unknown to this office.

This commission in its report which was adopted by the convention called upon all members and affiliated organizations to place political action in the forefront of their program and to follow a line of independent political action completely free from partisan consideration so as to support condidates who have demonstrated their allegiance to the cause of the people. They called for the establishment of national political action committees by the NNC and similar local committees. It was voted that consideration be given to the convening of a national Negro Peoples' Convention for political action in conjunction with other national organizations of Negro people and that functionaries of the NNC should confer and correspond with independent political action groups such as the CIO-PAC, NC-PAC, and the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions,

k. Cultural and Education Commission

The leadership of this commission did not become known to this office. The following recommendations by it were adopted by the convention: That a permanent education committee of the NNC be established to popularize the program and activities of the NNC and to work for democratic practices in the country's educational system; in regards to the topic of culture the need of the elimination of stereotyped roles for the Negroes in stage, screen and radio, was brought out.

3. The Anniversary Ball

On this Saturday evening an anniversary ball was held at 114 Erskine honoring the convention delegates and a majority of them attended. [redacted] over 500 copies of the "Worker" were sold at the affair.

D. FOURTH SESSION, SUNDAY, JUNE 2

1. Constitution Committee Report

The final session of the convention was held Sunday, June 2, at the St. Antoine Y.M.C.... The session, according to the official minutes of the conven-

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tion was chaired by Dr. YERGAN with the first order of business being the reading of the draft constitution which had been drawn up by a Constitution Committee consisting of the following individuals: EWART GUINIER, Vice President, UPW, New York City; C. LEBRON SIMMONS, President, NNC, Detroit; THOMMY RICHARDSON of the United Public Workers International; CHARLES COLLINS, previously identified, and JOSH LAWRENCE.

It was agreed by next year a Constitutional Commission would be appointed and a final constitution drawn up.

Subsequent to the report of the Consitution Committee, FERDINAND C. SMITH, Secretary of the National Maritime Union, brought greetings to the convention from the NMU and after an address the convention voted unanimously to give support to the planned Maritime strike.

Thereafter RAYMOND TILLMAN reported for the Finance Committee. A budget of $200,000 for the fiscal year which ends May, 1947, was projected and adopted. It was voted a budget of $25,000 be raised in the next thirty days and that $1,000 be raised by each state delegation. $100,000 was scheduled to be raised through individual contribution and fund raising activities for each delegate present to seek a contribution from the treasuries of unions and fraternal organizations with which they might be affiliated.

2. Election of Officers

67D

A mimeographed report captioned "Report of Sub-Committee of the Presiding Committee" which set forth the recommendations for nomination to offices was obtained by [redacted] and made available to this office. The recommendations as set forth thereon were all followed with the exception of the Rev. J. L. MONROE of Akron, Ohio, who was listed as a nominee for the National Executive Board but was not so elected, and MASON SMITH and JEANETTA WELCH BROWN of Detroit, who were not nominated to the National Executive Board as recommended in view of the fact that the Detroit Council was allowed only seven members instead of the nine which had originally been assigned to them.

A list of the elected officers is as follows:

President: — Max Yergan

Vice President: Ferdinand C. Smith, NMU, New York, N. Y.
Edward E. Strong, NNC, New York, N. Y.
Charles Collins, AFL, New York, N. Y.
Matthew N. Crawford, CIO, San Francisco, Calif.
Robbie Mae Riddick, FTA, Suffolk, Va.
Rev. A. C. Williams, Metropolitan Baptist Church, Detroit, Mich.
Raymond Tillman, TWU, New Orleans, La.
Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, Palmer Memorial Institute, Sedalia, N.C.

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Osceola McKaine, Southern Conference for Human Welfare, Columbia, S.C
Dr. J. S. Bourne, NNC, Boston, Mass.
Frederick Ptashno, American Jewish Congress, Chicago, Ill.
Walter Friesbie, State CIO, Gary, Indiana
J. B. Simmons, City Council, Toledo, Ohio

Treasurer: C. Lebron Simmons, NNC, Detroit, Michigan

Executive Secy. Revels Cayton, California

Exec. Board — Augustus Hawkins, Los Angeles, California
Arthur Huff Fauset, Philadelphia,
Hope Stevens, New York, N. Y.
Doxey Wilkerson, New York, N. Y.
J. H. Pyrce, Roanoke, Va.
William L. Patterson, Chicago, Ill.
Pat Riley, Gary, Ind.
Mason Smith, Detroit, Michigan
Hodges Mason, Detroit, Michigan
Frederick V. Field, New York, N. Y.
T. J. Sutton, San Antonio, Texas
Shelton Tappes, Detroit, Michigan
Dr. Robert A. Simmons, Boston, Mass.
Fred Holmes, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Edmonia Grant, Nashville, Tenn.
Donald Henderson, Philadelphia, Pa.
Thelma Dale, New York, N. Y., and Detroit, Michigan
Dorothy Funn, Washington, D. C.
Oliver Boutte, Los Angeles, Calif.
John H. Dial, Jr., Los Angeles, Calif.
Joseph Squires, St. Louis, Mo.
William P. Anderson, St. Louis, Mo.
Benjamin J. Davis, New York, N. Y.
Kenneth Eckert, Cleveland, Ohio
John L. Howard, Gary, Indiana
Marcet Scherer, New York, N. Y.
Conchinta M. Porter, Philadelphia, Pa.
Bertram M. Washington, Cleveland, Ohio
Henry Winston, New York, N. Y.
Branche B. Ray, Chicago, Illinois
Mario Harris, Washington, D. C.
Francis E. McNairy, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Wesley M. Green, Muncie, Indiana
Josh Lawrence, New York, N. Y.
Lucy Wison, Baltimore, Maryland
Louise Thompson, Chicago, Illinois

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Thomas Richardson, Washington, D. C.
Hosea Hudson, Birmingham, Alabama
Margaret Goss, Chicago, Ill.
Hilliard Ellis, Chicago, Ill.
Edna Johnson, Indianapolis, Ind.
Sylvia Wood, Chicago, Ill.
Coleman Young, Detroit, Mich.
George Murphy, Chicago, Ill.
Sam Parks, Chicago, Ill.
Rev. Chas. J. Rodgers, Chicago, Ill.
Julia Armstrong, Newark, N. J.
John Goodman, New York, N. Y.
William Hepburn, Miami, Fla.
John Wyatt, Port Gibson, Miss.
Emmett Wheaton, Toledo, Ohio, UAW, Trade Union
A. B. Bartlett, Memphis, Tenn.
Archie E. Benjamin, New Orleans, La.
James Walker, Detroit, Mich.
Mozelle Edwards, Bridgeport, Conn.
Jack Raskin, Detroit, Mich.
Ira Lattimore, Chicago, Ill.
Winifred Norman, New York, N. Y.
Jeanetta Welch Brown, Detroit, Mich.
Kenneth Spencer, New York, N. Y.
M. S. Stevens, Chicago, Ill.
Vera Vanderberg, Detroit, Mich.
Bertha Tipton, Chicago, Ill.
Reverend Benjamin J. Davis, Seattle, Wash.
Daisy George, New York, N. Y.
Leonard Cowan, San Francisco, Calif.
Louis Burnham, Birmingham, Ala.
Ernest Thompson, Jersey City, N. J.
Don Smith, New York, N. Y.
Ada B. Jackson, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Rev. J. I. Monroe, Akron, Ohio
James Jones, San Francisco, Calif.
Oliver T. Palmer, Washington, D. C.
Herbert Aptheker, New York, N. Y.
Ray Thompson, Berkeley, Calif.
Alice Scott, Milwaukee, Wisc.
William Young, Gary, Ind.
Ray Dennis, Cleveland, Ohio, IUMSW
Lamar Campbell, Akron, Ohio, Trade Union

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3. Final Business Matters

a. Report of the Credentials Committee

The official minutes of the subject convention as issued by the NNC reported that the statement issued by the Credentials Committee, this committee being headed by ELEANOR GODING, New York City, and C. PORTER, otherwise unidentified, reflected a total of 729 persons registered for this convention, broken down as follows: 710 delegates, 13 observers and 6 fraternal delegates.

The representatives present of 23 states, two from Canada, one from India, and one from France. Eighty-five per cent of the delegates present were from trade unions and twenty per cent of the delegates were white.

A large percentage of the representation from the trade unions is noteworthy in that it reflects that some group with considerable authority in the trade unions was active in getting the various union groups to send representatives and naturally the group which was responsible for the large representation of the trade unions was the Communist Party, and it was only through their efforts that the convention itself was as successful as it was. Considering that eighty-five per cent of the delegates were trade union representatives and of the remaining, fifteen per cent, a large number were delegates at the convention from the CP itself and its affiliates such as the AYD and CRF, only a small number of the delegates were actually NNC representatives.

The identity of various delegates to the convention became known to this office [redacted] The representation from each state and the delegates therefrom, whose identity was established, are as follows: b7D

ALABAMA: 1 delegate reported present: HOSEA HUDSON of the United Steel Workers Union, Birmingham, identified,

CALIFORNIA: 14 delegates reported present: OLIVER BOUETTE, Marine Coach and Stewards Union, San Francisco; MATHEW N. CRAWFORD, San Francisco; EDDIE STINSON, identified.

CONNECTICUT: 7 delegates reported present: None identified.

FLORIDA 3 delegates reported present: WILLIAM. A. HEPBURN, representing the Elks, Miami; ROSCOE LACEY, Locals 100 and 23, Orlando. (This individual was named NNC organizer for the State of Florida and promised to activate a chapter in Orlando.) identified.

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GEORGIA: 1 delegate reported present.

ILLINOIS: 68 delegates reported present: D. B. JARROTT, ASY of Chicago; HOWARD MAYHEW, Local 719, UAW-CIO; WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, Chicago CP delegate; Mrs. WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, Chicago; JAMES SPRAGUE, FTA Local 194, Chicago, identified.

INDIANA: 23 delegates reported present. Those identified: JOHN L. HOWARD, Gary; EDNA JOHNSON, Indianapolis; JOHN NEWSOME, Gary, Local 1066; PAT RILEY, Indianapolis; MANUEL TAYLOR, Gary, Local 1066.

LOUISIANA: 6 delegates reported present. RAY TILMAN, New Orleans, identified.

MARYLAND: 2 delegates reported present. Dr. LUCY MASON, Baltimore, identified.

MASSACHUSETTS: 3 delegates reported present; Dr. J. S. BOURNE, identified.

MICHIGAN: 303 delegates reported present. A list of 274 delegates to this convention from Michigan was made available to this office [redacted] Since the identity of these individuals is of no interest to other offices, the list [redacted] is being indexed and filed as a separate serial and the names are not being recapitulated. b7

MINNESOTA: 4 delegates reported present.

MISSISSIPPI: 1 delegate reported present.

MISSOURI: 23 delegates reported present: CHARLES H. ANDERSON, St. Louis; LEON A. CHASE, St. Louis; HERBERT LEE, CIO, St. Louis; SUE RUBIN; LAVERNE SMITH, identified.

NORTH CAROLINA: 3 delegates reported present.

NEW JERSEY: 23 delegates reported present: LOUIS ATTLES, Newark, UERMWA; W. RICHARD CARTER, Camden, IUMSWA; CLIFFORD COOPER, FTA, Local 80, Camden; EZRA COUNTS, 114 Old Rose Street, Trenton, UERMWA; A. C. ELLIOTT, Jersey City, NNC; FREDDIE LEWIS, 66 Hillsdale Place, Newark; DUNCAN MANNING; ADDIE MARSHAL; JAMES MARSHALL; SAMUEL McCOY, UAW; WESLEY MITCHELL, UERMWA; R. S. MONROE, 131 Kerney Avenue, Jersey City, Local #16 IUMSWA; JOSEPH

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PIERCE, UERMWA; OLLIE RICHARDSON, 93 Prince Street, Newark; MARCEL SCHERER, UERMWA; EDWARD SEARS, Local 20; ALMA STAFFORD, UERMWA, Local 141; JOHN TERRY, UGEEWA; ERNEST THOMPSON, NNC.

NEW YORK: 94 delegates reported present. REBELS CAYTON, NYC; CHARLES COLLINS, Vice President, Hotel and Club Employees #6, NYC; ELEANOR GODING, NYC; JOHN GOODMAN, AFL Building Services Employees, NYC; EYART GUINIER, UEW, NYC; JOHN HARMON, UPW #21, NYC; MAURICE IRBY, 20 Waverly Place, Freeport, Long Island; ADA JACKSON, Brooklyn; CLAUDIA JONES, NYC; GARDNER JONES, Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union, NYC; JOSH LAURENCE, NMU, NYC; FLORENCIO LOTOLONGO; LUCIANO MERCHEO, Window Cleaners Union, NYC; THOMAS RICHARDSON, UPW, NYC; HOPE STEVENS, NYC; WILLIE SIMMONS, Local 400, Sperry, NYC; FERDINAND SMITH, NMU; DORETTA TARMON, New Masses, NYC; HENRY WINSTRON, NYC. Winston

OHIO: 70 delegates reported present. LAWRENCE J. CAMPBELL, Local #5 of the Rubber Workers; WILLIAM EVANS, Local 755, CIO, Cleveland; RAY DENNIS, Cleveland; ADMIRAL KILPATRICK, Cleveland; BOB HOWELL, Toledo; JOHN SIMMONS, Toledo; SAMUEL LEVINE, Toledo; ART CARROLL, Toledo; LOU FERRARI, Toledo; LEO SCHETTLER, Toledo. The following additional identifications were made by [redacted] ABRAHAM LEWIS, Cleveland; OSCAR RUCKER, Cleveland; IRENE OSCAR, Cleveland; ADELINE COHL, Cleveland; KENNETH ECKERT, Cleveland; EMMETT LEE WHEATON, Toledo; SAMUEL KING, Toledo; RAYFIELD ETISON, Toledo; NAT COHEN, Toledo; SAM EASLEY, Akron. b7D

OKLAHOMA: 1 The report of the Credentials Committee failed to indicate any representatives being present from this state; however, [redacted] CAP JEFFERSON of Oklahoma City was present. b7D

PENNSYLVANIA: 16 delegates reported present. Those identified: IDA MAE ADAMS, Pittsburgh, UERMWA #601; BEN CAREATHERS; SAMPSON D. GOODMAN, Pittsburgh, UERMWA, Local 610; JAMES GRIFFIN, Newcastle, UAW-CIO #69; PERCY JONES, Newcastle, UAW-CIO #69; WILLIAM D. RIDGEWAY, Philadelphia; JOSEPH SMITH; THEODORE WRIGHT.

TENNESSEE: 3 delegates reported present. None identified.

VIRGINIA 3 delegates reported present. None identified.

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TEXAS: 1 delegate reported present. None identified.

WASHINGTON: 38 delegates reported present. AL ELLIS; DOROTHY FUNN; WALTER W. HELLER, Room 4217 Treasury Department, Washington; MEL MITCHELL, UPW #1; BOB PALMER; MARIE RICHARDSON; THOMAS RICHARDSON; JOE SACHS; BERTHA WICKER.

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WISCONSIN: 5 delegates reported present: JOE ELLIS, Milwaukee, identified.

INDIA M. FAZAL ELAHI ZURBAN, All-India Trade Congress.

PARIS, FRANCE: SYDNEY PELAZE

The following names were obtained without establishing their home: BOB BUCHANAN; BUD CHILDS; MAT CRAWFORD; DAISY MOOREHEAD; and Mrs. MEYER SMITH.

b. Decision to Move National Headquarters from New York City to Detroit, Michigan

b7D

[redacted] the proposition to move the national headquarters of the NNC from New York City to Detroit was placed before the convention and it was voted by them that this transfer should take place and be completed within six months' time.

b2
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[redacted] RUTH JETT, National NNC Functionary, had advised VERA VANDENBERG, Executive Secretary of the Detroit branch, that whereas this transfer was still projected it would not be effected until the NNC had raised $15,000 to complete it.

E. MISCELLANEOUS CONVENTION MATTERS

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted]

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The presiding committee for the convention consisted of the national officers plus the members of the Resolutions Committee, members of the Resolutions Committee being OLIVER BOUETTE, California; MASON SMITH, Detroit; ADMIRAL KILPATRICK, Ohio; OLIVER PALMER; PAT RILEY, Indiana, and NORMA COERMAKER.

It was this group that made the nominations for the 1946 national officers which had been previously reported.

During the course of the convention it was reported to the leaders of it that various delegates were subjected to racial discrimination in some of the restaurants where they attempted to dine while in Detroit. Consequently the Michigan State Caucus elected a Committee on Civil Rights to handle the complaints of this nature. JACK RASKIN, Executive Secretary of the CRF, Detroit, was elected Chairman of this committee. He appealed for eight volunteers from Detroit, four black and four white, to run test cases on the restaurants where these alleged cases of discrimination occurred. Actual functioning of this committee did not come to the attention of this office.

III. EVIDENCES OF COMMUNIST PARTY CONTROL AND INTEREST IN THE NNC CONVENTION

[redacted] that the local CP office would be unable to undertake any work in preparing for the appearance of one JOHN STEWARD at the NNC convention in Detroit although they had been so requested by "New Masses." b2 b7D

[redacted] b1 (C)

[redacted] C. LEBRON SIMMONS, President of the Detroit chapter of the NNC, was reported by [redacted] to have contacted JACK RASKIN, Executive Secretary of the CRF, on May 28, 1946, requesting RASKIN'S assistance in writing a resolution on the OPA to be presented to the NNC convention. b2 b7D

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[redacted] b7D

[redacted] b1(E)

[redacted] stated that during the NNC convention they sold 1,500 copies of the "Daily Worker" b2 and 300 "Sunday" papers after the dance held the Saturday night of the convention. b7D

In the section of this report entitled Pre-Convention Activities the original and immediate contact of LARRY BURNSTEIN, who came from New York City to handle the NNC convention publicity, with local CP headquarters is reported.

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] The matter of discrimination was discussed and CARL WINTER made the decision that the Party would take the initiative in forming a committee to act on this matter. The formation of this committee under the leadership of JACK RASKIN has been previously reported.

b7D

The second decision [redacted] was that the Communists present should take leadership in all possible panels and commissions [redacted] during the remainder of the convention it proved that the Communists present were elected to leadership of these trough the efforts of the large bloc of other Communists in attendance.

ENCLOSURES

TO NEW YORK; One copy of the "Oppression of the American Negro" by Dr. HERBERT APTHEKER; one copy of a special memorandum to editors issued by the NNC National Office June 28, 1946; two throw-aways issued by the "New Masses" and distributed at instant convention.

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UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

b7D

[redacted]

THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

At DETROIT, MICHIGAN, will continue to follow and report activities of subject group.

Offices receiving a copy of this report for information are being furnished same for the reason that delegates were reported to have been in attendance from their field divisions.

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WASH FROM NEW YORK 15 11 6-39 P

DIRECTOR ROUTINE

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, IS C. [redacted] ADVISED SUBJECT ORGANIZATION INTENDS TO CONDUCT A CAMPAIGN TO BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF THE UNITED NATIONS COUNCIL THE PLIGHT OF THIRTEEN MILLION UNDER-PRIVILEGED NEGROES OF THE US. THE MOVE IS TO DETRACT ATTENTION AND OFFSET THE RECENT SOVIET SETBACK IN GREECE. [redacted] ADVISED THE COMMUNIST PARTY AND COMMUNIST FRONT GROUPS INTEND TO EXPLOIT ALL POSSIBILITIES WITH REGARD TO THE NEGRO QUESTION IN THE US.

RECORDED & INDEXED

61-6728-

37 SEP 11 1946

SCHEIDT

HOLD

63 SEP 29 1946

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 6/7/79 BY SP-1 GSK/RH

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

00-949
IDW:NAD

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: September 18, 1946

FROM : GUY HOTTEL, SAC Washington Field

SUBJECT: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

b7D

[redacted] in this Division provided the information that on September 23d, 1946, the National Negro Congress, in conjunction with "Win The Peace" organization, will support a mass demonstration in Washington, D. C. for the purpose of focussing attention on the various lynchings which had occurred throughout the South in recent weeks and for demanding Federal Anti-Lynching laws. In addition issues probably will be made of the O.P.A. discrimination against Negroes in the U.S.E.S. office and perhaps reference will be made to alleged police brutalities in the District of Columbia.

This "Crusade Against Lynching" was originated by PAUL ROBESON who is Chairman of a Committee of 80 which is now working vigorously to set the stage for the enactment of Federal legislation to curb lynching. The only Washington, D. C. member of this Committee of 80 is Dr. JOSEPH L. JOHNSON Negro, Dean of Howard University Medical School, and President of the local chapter of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare.

The Committee hopes to obtain the use of either the Department of Labor auditorium or the Department of Interior auditorium and at present there is some conversation in reference to obtaining the use of Griffiths Stadium for the purpose of conducting a mock trial of Jim Crow for public attention.

In addition to PAUL ROBESON, well-known figures to attend this Crusade in Washington, D. C. will be ORSON WELLS and FRANK SINATRA.

b7D

[redacted] However, WILLIAM C. TAYLOR, Negro, local Communist Party chairman, is active in making plans for this Crusade and it is known that the local Communist Party is doing all it can unofficially to promote the demonstration.

At the present time plans for this Crusade are being made in the local office of the National Negro Congress at 1015 [illegible] Street, N.W. [redacted]

b7D

RECORDED & INDEXED

61-6748

SEP 26 1946

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DATE 6/7/79 BY SP-1 GSK/RLD

WFO-100-949

b7D

[redacted] advised this office that in connection with the Crusade Against Lynching it is anticipated that at least 500 persons from New York and Chicago will convene in Washington. It is not known exactly when these outside delegations will arrive but according to [redacted] they will come into Washington over the three day period of September 21st, 22d, and 23d. In addition to the plans related above the out-of-town delegations plan to join with local groups to conduct a parade and to present a petition to the President.

In this respect, incidentally, the plans are in general similar to those used in previous demonstrations in connection with the protests against lynchings.

b7D

[redacted] reported that one group of out-of-town delegations would use the local office of "Win The Peace" organization as its headquarters and the other group would use the Union Hall of Cafeteria Workers Union, Local #471, at 1015 "M" Street, N.W.

[redacted] related that probably most of the Negroes in the out-of-town delegations would stay at Carver Hall and Lucy Slowe Hall during the period of their visit.

[redacted] related that the plans at the present time contemplate a mass meeting on Sunday afternoon, September 22d, 1946, at Lincoln Memorial. b7D

[redacted] have pointed out that the plans for all of the activities in Washington have not crystallized completely and that the exact plans probably will not be known until the last minute. b7D

The above has been provided for the information of the Bureau.

) (2-7-79)

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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : R. T. HARBO

DATE: 10-4-46

FROM : M. B. LONG

SUBJECT: Negro Achievement Association of America et al
Internal Security - C/
Bureau file 61-6728

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Nease
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahan
Miss Gandy

There is attached the file which has been maintained in the Laboratory in connection with the above captioned matter. It is desired that this file be maintained as an enclosure behind the main file in the Records Section.

Attachment

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DATE 6/7/79 BY SP-1 CSK/RH

61-6728-571

NOT RECORDED
15 OCT 1 1946

ENCLOSURE BEHIND FILE

56 OCT 11 1946

DIRECTOR, FBI

GUY HOTTEL, SAC

October 3, 1946

M

[redacted]

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

O/S

This is to advise that during the last three months' period the following information was provided by [redacted] in this Division relative to Un-American and revolutionary statements, made by members of the local chapter of the National Negro Congress, a Communist front organization.

b7D

O/S

[redacted] the United Cafeteria Workers Local Union. The office for this union is located at the same address as the office of the local chapter of the National Negro Congress, namely 1015 "M" Street, N.W.

[redacted]

b7D

had no faith in the National Negro Congress' petition program [redacted] United Nations. These petitions were being circulated by the National Negro Congress for signatures to be sent to the United Nations Council requesting action by that organization to eliminate the oppression of the colored people of the world, particularly the 13,000,000 negroes in the United States.

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted]

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0-17437

OCT 15 1946

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DATE 6/8/79 BY SP-1 GSK/RH

b7D

[redacted]

[redacted]

b7D

During the period from July 1st, 1946, to October 1st, 1946, there has been no evidence in addition to that set forth above on revolutionary or Un-American statements or activities by Communist Party members or sympathizers in this area.

The status of this case remains Pending Inactive in this office.

EXFD 61-8711-573

SAC, Detroit

October 7, 1946

Director, FBI

EX-8

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

For your information there is being forwarded herewith a photostatic copy of a letter distributed by the Detroit Council of the National Negro Congress which was furnished to the Bureau by [redacted]

67D

Attachment

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/8/79 BY SP-1 6SK/RH

JCC:MJP

P.M.

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Carson
Egan
Gurnea
Harbo
Hendon
Pennington
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

OCT 7 3 57 PM '46

Detroit Council

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

114 ERSKINE CADILLAC 4993 DETROIT 1, MICH.

Officers

C. LE BRON SIMMONS
PRESIDENT

CLARENCE BRADLEY
VICE-PRESIDENT

VERA VANDERBURG
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

ADA RICE
RECORDING SECRETARY

JAMES BELL
TREASURER

REV. SAMUEL ROUNTREE
CHAPLAIN

Executive Board

CHRISTOPHER C. ALSTON
CHESTER BERRY
MYRTICE ERSKINE
HERBERT FITZGERALD
MARY L. HAYES
REV. CHARLES A. HILL
MARIE HILT
PAUL S. KIRK
FRANCES PRICE
MASON SMITH
SHELTON TAPPES
JAMES WALKER
COLEMAN A. YOUNG

September 4, 1946

Dear Fellow-Unionist:

The labor committee of the Detroit Council of the National Negro Congress has done some very important work since the 10th Anniversary Convention of the National Negro Congress. Wider participation will assure even greater successes. Will you become an active member of the Labor Committee so that with your consistent attendance and assistance the Labor Committee can do a complete job?

We meet each Saturday at the NNC office at 2:00 p.m.

The National Convention sounded the keynote for dynamic action by NNC labor committees all over the country. The Detroit Council labor committee has a concrete program to unify the labor and progressive forces of our city behind the fight to maintain and extend the economic gains of Negro workers. Negroes and the labor movement, two great forces for progress in this country, are the target for attack on the economic as well as the civil liberties front. Unity and action --here lies our salvation!

Will you be with us Saturday, September 7th at 2:00 p.m. at NNC hearquarters, 114 Erskine?

Fraternally yours,

Leon England

Leon England) Co-Chairmen
[illegible]) Labor Committee
James Walker)

ms
uopwa26cio

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DATE 6/8/79 BY SP-1 GSK/RH

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EX- 1
OCT 11 1946

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CONFIDENTIAL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY

FILE NO. 100-896

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
SAN [illegible], [illegible]	10/8/46	9/30/46	[redacted] b7C EWJ

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL [illegible] CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: A chapter of NNC was established in June, 1946, in National City and San Diego, California, by known CP members. [illegible] WILLIAMS, negro CP member, is president. CP leaders, San Diego, indicate they will infiltrate and work with NNC as CP front and discontinue activity in and support of NAACP. Subject organization held mass meeting August 23, 1946, in San Diego. [redacted] b1

- P -

b7D

DETAILS: [redacted]

[redacted] continued that [illegible] stated the CPC was well represented at the convention. [redacted] that they would form an NNC Chapter in San Diego and "to [illegible] with the NAACP". [redacted] b7D

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CONFIDENTIAL 61-6728-574

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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1-G-2, Los Angeles
1-ONI, 11th [illegible]
3-San Diego

CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY SP-1 [illegible] 6/8/79
REASON FOR EXTENSION FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2 2
DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION 6/8/89

7-2034

stated he had given $50 to the NNC.

[redacted] (c) b

[redacted] advised that an organizational meeting for a National City branch of the NNC was held on June 24, 1946. At this meeting JOHN T. WILLIAMS was chairman and the speakers included RICHARD ADAMS, [redacted], JAMES OATES, a veteran, and WILLIAM HERRON, organizational director. A steering committee was appointed which included WILLIAM HERRON, Mrs. HERRON, Mrs. JOHN T. WILLIAMS and VINCENT ACANFORA [redacted] b7D b7C

[redacted]

On June 30, 1946, [redacted] that a chapter of the NNC had been set up in National City, California. Further, that the last issue of the "Comet", the organization's official publication, contained a write-up on the new chapter. DICK ADAMS and VINCENT and ELIA ACANFORA led a meeting of this organization at which JOHN (JOHNNY) WILLIAMS, [redacted] was installed as head of the chapter. [redacted] that a young negro named OATES, who is active in the American Legion Post in Logan Heights was in the NNC. [redacted] b7D

[redacted] (c) b1

[redacted] b1

[redacted] (c) b1

) (2-7-79)

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☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

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61-6728-574 p3

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CONFIDENTIAL

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

SAN DIEGO FIELD DIVISION

At San Diego, California,

Will follow and report Subject's activities [redacted]

b7D

- PENDING -

CONFIDENTIAL

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE No. 66-1869
DMP:NVB

United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Detroit, Michigan
September 30 - 1946

JUSTIFICATION FOR CONTINUATION OF TECHNICAL OR MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE

RE: Title NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS (Detroit Branch)
Character of Case INTERNAL SECURITY - C
Field Office Detroit
Symbol Number [redacted]
Type of Surveillance: (Technical or Microphone) TECHNICAL

b2
b7D

1. Subject's name and address:

The National Negro Congress (Detroit Branch)
114 Erskine Street
Detroit, Michigan

2. Location of technical operation:

[redacted] b7E

3. Dates of initial authorization and installation:

	Authorized	Installed
[redacted]	2/13/46	4/25/46
	5/17/46	5/25/46

b7E

4. Previous and other installations on the same subject (with dates and places):

Technical surveillance maintained on Rackham Memorial Building, 100 Farnsworth, Detroit, Michigan, from May 30, 1946, through June 1, 1946, in connection with National Convention of Subject Group held there those dates. [redacted]

b2
b7D

61-6[illegible]
F D I
OCT 16 1946

5. Specific valuable information obtained since previous report with indication of specific value of each item and what use was made of each item of information involved:

(See attached sheet.)

58 OCT 2 1946

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DATE 6/8/99 BY SP-1 65K/RK

Letter of Justification
September 30, 1946

Re: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

5. Information has been received concerning the furnishing of false information to the Bureau by [redacted] who were interviewed in connection with [redacted] The identity of NNC members, contacts of the NNC with the Communist Party and other Communist Party fronts, and information concerning activities of the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America is available through this source.

b7c

6. Could above information have been obtained from other sources and by other means?

No.

7. Has security factor changed since installation?

No.

8. Any request for the surveillance by outside agency (give name, title and agency):

None.

9. Manpower and costs involved:

[redacted]

b7E

10. Remarks (By SAC):

It is recommended that this informant be continued in view of the information furnished by the informant and also in view of the fact that it is expected that the National Headquarters of this organization will be moved to Detroit from New York City.

11. Remarks (added at Seat of Government):

From the technical surveillance maintained on the Detroit Headquarters of the National Negro Congress, the contacts between the members of this organization and the Communist Party together with other Communist front organizations have been made available to the Bureau. In addition, we have been able to follow the activities of [redacted] a new active Communist influenced organization.

b/s

b7c

In addition, information was received to show that when [redacted] were interviewed in connection with [redacted] is being investigated under the Unlawful Flight to Avoid Prosecution statute, they gave false information to Bureau Agents. In view of this, it is recommended that this technical surveillance be continued for an additional 60 days.

12. **Recommendation by Assistant Director:**

It is my recommendation that this technical surveillance be continued for an additional 60 days.

13. **Recommendation by the Assistants to the Director:**

Approved - EAT.

President Harry S. Truman
The White House
Washington, D.C.

RESOLUTION ON MONROE GEORGIA LYNCHING

WHEREAS: The recent brutal mass lynching of two Negroes and their wives in Monroe, Georgia has again brought shame and disgrace to our nation. These four lynchings make a total of fifteen which have occured since January 1, 1946, yet not one of the murderers have been taken into custody.

WHEREAS: These lynchings are not isolated incidents. They are the planned result of organized prejudice and hate which has been rapidly growing in the North as well as the South since the end of the war.

Although the Ku Klux Klan and other subversive organizations and native fascists have been engaged in these acts, as did the brown shirts in pre-Hitler Germany, prime responsibility rests upon those employers who finance and use them to prevent self-organization of the workers in the South and to divide and weaken the unions in the North.

It is too clear to permit a denial that if the Federal Government used all of its powers and resources to stamp out this growing terrorism, the guilty persons and organizations could quickly be brought to justice and their murderous practices put to an end.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That we the 700 people gathered at 1924 Grant Street, Detroit, Michigan under the auspices of the North Detroit Branch of the Universal Negro Improvement Association and the North Detroit Unit of the National Negro Congress demand that you use your executive power immediately to bring these criminals to justice.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That we hold you and the Justice Department responsible for the safety of American citizens from mob violence or terror regardless of race, creed or color.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That we call upon you to out law the Klan throughout the country.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED: That a copy of this resolution be sent to Attorney General Tom Clark; J. Edgar Hoover of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and to all Michigan representatives.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

NY FILE NO. 100-3635 JLK

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW YORK	10/22/46	10/3,4,8,9/46	[redacted]

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C 67C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: National Negro Congress to move their National Office to Detroit. Lack of funds holding up this move. [redacted] 67D

NNC active in racial issues and has been instrumental in organizing and carrying out the "anti-lynching crusade" to Washington, D.C. on 9/23/46. The NNC is planning another crusade to Washington in December. Organization presently active in connection with the coming elections in NYC.

DEC 1946 45

CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY SP-1 65K/RH 6/8/79
REASON FOR EXTENSION FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION 6/8/89

REFERENCE: Bureau file #61-6728.
Report of Special Agent [redacted] New York, 6/6/46.
Report of Special Agent [redacted] Detroit, 8/30/46.

DETAILS:

On October 8, 1946, [redacted] advised that the National Negro Congress will move their National Office from 307 Lenox Avenue, New York City, to Detroit, Michigan in compliance with decisions made at the recent "10th Anniversary Convention" of the National Negro Congress which was held.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: Edward Scheidt SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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61-6728-577

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at Detroit from May 30 through June 2, 1946. [redacted] b7D
[redacted] the only thing that is holding up the transfer of the National Office at the present time is the lack of funds necessary to make this move. b7D

[redacted]

[redacted]

"The Daily Worker" on May 29, 1946, carried an article which stated that REVELS CAYTON, Executive Secretary of the National Negro Congress had called upon the American people and the Negroes in particular to fight against the pending anti-Labor legislation recommended by the President. The article stated that this statement was made by CAYTON prior to his leaving for Detroit to participate in the National Convention of the National Negro Congress.

The article stated further that CAYTON expected more than 1000 Negro and White delegates from virtually every state in the union to be present at the Convention in Detroit, representing labor, church, community and civic organizations. It stated that the main points of the National Negro Congress' program were:

1 - Equal jobs and economic security for the Negro people.
2 - An end to the policy of armed violence against the Negro people and organized labor.
3 - Freedom for the Colonial peoples and American support of the principles of the United Nations friendship with the Soviet Union as a necessary means of peace.

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] b7D

[redacted]

[redacted] b1 (c)

[redacted] (c) b1

[redacted] b7D b2

[redacted] concerning YERGAN's candidacy for re-election as President of the National Negro Congress at the 10th Anniversary Convention. [redacted] prevailed upon YERGAN to seek re-election as if he did not, with the new exhilarated program of the National Negro Congress, it would reflect upon YERGAN's ability in that the Congress in the past has not been too active.

YERGAN agreed that he would seek re-election. [redacted] concerning the relative merits of REVELS CAYTON, the present Executive Secretary of the National Negro Congress and EDWARD STRONG who was the Executive Secretary of the National Negro Congress until he was called into the armed services. [redacted] favored STRONG for this position over CAYTON.

(It is to be noted that MAX YERGAN was re-elected President of the National Negro Congress and REVELS CAYTON was re-elected Executive Secretary. EDWARD STRONG was elected one of the Vice Presidents of the National Negro Congress.)

On July 6, 1946, the "New York Amsterdam News" carried an article which stated in part that the National Negro Congress plans to present the United Nations with cases of Jim Crowism and that a series of nationwide people's testimonial tribunals at which United States Negroes can describe the conditions of their status in this country, will develop in coming months if plans of the National Negro Congress materialize.

The article stated that the Congress intends to establish the tribunals to obtain evidence supporting its plea to the United Nations Economic and Social council for intervention in behalf of United States Negroes. The present program of the National Negro Congress is to support the charges of national and racial oppression in the petition to the United Nations which was unanimously approved at the May 30 through June 2 convention of the National Negro Congress. It was stated that officials of the congress were undecided as yet concerning the specific location of the tribunals, but that they believed they would be set up in a dozen or more of the principal cities throughout the country.

It is stated that every kind of evidence relating to the economic, political and social discrimination against United States Negroes will be accepted into evidence, then summarized and written into a master-brief for submission to the United Nations body in support of the Congress' petition.

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] advised that on July 28, 1946, a mass meeting was held at Lafrence Brook Square, 136th Street and St. Nicholas Avenue, New York City, under the auspices of the National Negro Congress and the Associated Ministers of Harlem for the purpose of protesting the recent lynching in Monroe, Georgia.

[redacted] that among the speakers at this meeting were BENJAMIN J. DAVIS JR., City Councilman and member of the National Board of the Communist Party, CHARLES COLLINS, American Labor Party candidate for the New York State Senate, Congressman ADAM CLAYTON POWELL JR. and RUTH JETT of the National Negro Congress. [redacted] POWELL claimed that Talmadge and Bilbo were directly responsible for the crimes because of their declarations of white supremacy. b7D

BEN DAVIS discussed the Freeport, Long Island, case and accused Governor DEWEY of New York of being responsible in connection with the growth of lynching in the United States because of his refusal to act promptly in the case of the FERGUSON brothers at Freeport, Long Island. A resolution was passed at this mass meeting denouncing the lynchings and urging the immediate enactment of a federal anti-lynching bill.

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] advised that on July 31, 1946, a mass anti-lynching demonstration was held at Madison Square Park in New York City, attended by approximately 2000 people. [redacted] stated that this mass demonstration was initiated by the National Negro Congress and the Civil Rights Congress. [redacted] stated that the demonstration demanded that the President take immediate steps against the lynchers. Among the speakers at this affair were DR. MAX YERGAN, President of the National Negro Congress and JOHN WILLIAMSON, member of the National Committee of the Communist Party.

[redacted] advised that on September 15, 1946, a mass meeting was held in the Salem Methodist Church, 7th Avenue and 129th Street in New York City under the auspices of the National Negro Congress and the American Youth for Democracy. [redacted] advised that the purpose of this meeting was to focus attention on the planned "Crusade to End Lynching." which was scheduled for September 23, 1946 at Washington, D.C. b7D

[redacted] stated that among the speakers at this affair were ARTHUR GAVEN, ALBERT KAHN, Reverend C. Y. TRIGG, and WINIFRED NORMAN of the American Youth for Democracy. b7D

[redacted] advised concerning the same meeting that the purpose of the American Crusade Against Lynching, as stated at this meeting, was:

1 - The apprehension and punishment of lynchers.
2 - Passage of federal anti-lynching laws.
3 - Keeping the Ku Klux Klan out of the Senate with no seat for THEODORE BILBO.

[redacted] stated that WINIFRED NORMAN of the American Youth for Democracy pledged that the AYD would send 1000 AYDers to Washington on September 23, 1946, in connection with this crusade. b7D

[redacted] advised that the American Crusade to End Lynching was organized by the National Negro Congress and the American Youth for Democracy and that this crusade took place on Monday, September 23, 1946. Delegates from all over the country were to participate in this mobilization and that in New York City, the National Negro Congress, the Communist Party, the United Negro and Allied Veterans were active in mobilizing their forces in order to participate in this crusade. [redacted] advised that PAUL ROBESON, colored singer, was Chairman of the crusade.

[redacted] advised that the National Negro Congress in Washington, D.C. made all the preparations for the crusade to End Lynching and that help from other parts of the country was present in Washington to lend a hand in receiving the delegation. [redacted] advised that the New York delegation on September 23, 1946 totalled approximately 1200.

[redacted] advised on October 8, 1946, that the National Negro Congress considered the Crusade to End Lynching which was held on September 23, 1946 at Washington, D.C. as quite successful. He also stated that the Congress is planning another crusade for the same purpose to Washington, D.C. during the month of December, 1946 and that they had hopes that this crusade will have an even larger turnout than the last. He advised that at the present time the National Negro Congress is concentrating on preparing for this crusade and also using its forces in connection with the coming elections to be held in New York City in the near future.

- P E N D I N G -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

DETROIT

At Detroit, Michigan

Will attempt to ascertain any plans for the movement of the National Office of the National Negro Congress to Detroit.

WASHINGTON FIELD

At Washington, D.C.

Will attempt to ascertain any plans for the second Crusade to End Lynching which is reported as scheduled to take place in December of this year.

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will follow and report activities of the National Negro Congress in this area.

) (2-7-79)

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61-6728-577 p8

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November 13, 1946

PERSONAL ~~AND CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

RECORDED

61-6728-577

EX - 5

Major General Harry Hawkins Vaughan
Military Aide to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Vaughan:

I thought that the President and you would be interested in knowing that plans are being formulated in New York to hold another American Crusade to End Lynching Rally in Washington, D. C. during December of 1946, having the same purpose as the one that was held in September of this year.

These plans are being formulated in the National Offices of the National Negro Congress, a Communist controlled Front group which hopes that this crusade will have a larger turnout than the last. At the present time the National Negro Congress is concentrating its forces on the preparation for this crusade.

With expressions of my highest esteem,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

NOV 13 7 51 PM '46

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NOV 13 5 46 PM

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58 DEC 23 1946

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
WASHINGTON, D. C.	10-28-46	10-14,15-46	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Investigation reflects NNC, Washington, for practical purposes controlled by Communist Party. Local Council has sponsored several picket lines, is active in "Oust Bilbo Movement" and sponsor of American Crusade to End Lynching. Facts set out concerning local membership meetings. THELMA DALE now returned to NYC, however, DOROTHY FUNN still active in Washington.

- P -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 4-18-46 at Washington, D. C.

b7c 1-15

DETAILS:

According to [redacted] the following is a list of officers of the local council, National Negro Congress, in Washington, D. C.

Chairman	CHARLES S. HILL
Vice-Chairman	WILLIAM S. JOHNSON
Executive Secretary	MARIE RICHARDSON HARRIS
Assistant Secretary	WILLIAM TYMOUS
Treasurer	GENEVA BROWN

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REASON FOR EXTENSION FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2 2
DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION 6/8/89

APPROVED AND FORWARDED [signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

61-6728-[illegible]

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9 NOV 15 1946

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100-949

Board Members: BEATRICE PALMER
OLIVER PALMER
SALLY PEEK
MRS OSBORN (phonetic)
JAMES HARRIS
HELEN GARNER

[redacted]

[redacted] a meeting at the local headquarters of the Congress at 1015 M Street, N. W. This meeting was called by BILL TAYLOR, [redacted] and several prominent Communists were present. The purpose of the meeting was for the Communist Party, working through the National Negro Congress, to conduct a survey of the members of the Congress, to ascertain how many negroes would qualify as insurance agents. For this information the Congress is going to contact the various insurance companies in Washington in an attempt to get them to hire negro agents. It was stated that the program will start in Washington and if successful, will be carried out in other cities. It was emphasized that the program will be handled entirely through the Congress, with the Communist Party functionaries acting as a steering committee, and no business concerning this is to be transacted through the local party headquarters.

An article appearing in The Daily Worker on May 15, 1946, reports that the National Negro Congress accused Senator BILBO of resorting to "simple lies",

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when on May 9, 1946, he made a speech at Hattiesburg, Mississippi, at which time he indicated that a great fight was being made to give the people of Washington a right to vote. BILBO pointed out that with this right the capital would be turned over to the negro race to control and operate.

According to [redacted] on May 27, 1946, the Southernaires, a negro quartet, gave a concert at the Metropolitan Baptist Church, 1225 R Street, N. W., for the benefit of the Washington Council, NNC. b7D

It might be noted that GEORGE S. SCHUYLER, a columnist writing in the Pittsburgh Courier, Washington Edition, on June 8, 1946, attacked the NNC, pointing out that its head, MAX YERGAN, was a Kremlin apologist. In interpreting a speech of YERGAN's, SCHUYLER stated "translated from Moskowese, this means that, with the war over and Russia saved, the NNC is going to drive for capture of all the negroes and will use the support of white reds to that end". He pointed out that identification of the American negroes with the Moscow clique would offer an added excuse for protecting colored people.

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] gave a report to those present concerning the convention of the NNC which was held in Detroit and which he attended. He mentioned that a petition had been drawn up by the convention and sent to the United States Government to the effect that the Government evaluate the needs of the negroes the world over.

[redacted] stated during this meeting that the Communist Party has to build their clubs around the NNC movements. b7D

[redacted]

CONFIDENTIAL

100-949

the Capital Transit Company put negro operators on the H Street car line and the 4th Street, S. W. bus line. It was further announced at the meeting that the NNC activities are going to be made the center of Communist Party activities.

[redacted] furnished Special Agent [redacted] of this office a copy of the NNC News, Volume I, No. 1, published by the Washington Council, which is dated July, 1946. It was noted that an article therein states that a highlight of the 10th convention of the NNC which was held in Detroit, was the reading of the U. N. petition by EDWARD STRONG, and it was stated that the subject matter of the petition was concerned with the protection of minorities and the prevention of discrimination on the grounds of race. The News further states that the 38 delegates who attended the national convention will constitute the Washington Council U. N. Petition Committee, and the hope was expressed that all members of the Congress will aid in getting signatures and collecting funds for this all-important document. It might be noted that it was stated in the News that beginning in January, 1946, the NNC increased its membership by over 800. [redacted] has stated that the membership for the local council in Washington approximates 1200 individuals.

The Evening Star for July 11, 1946, carries an article concerning a buyers' strike which occurred on that date in the City of Washington. This strike was sponsored by numerous liberal and Communist organizations and it is noted that the NNC was one of the sponsors. It was reported that approximately 150 pickets participated in the buyers' strike in various sections of downtown Washington.

On July 17, 1946, [redacted] advised the writer that [redacted] of the local chapter, NNC [redacted] thoughts of canvassing the ministers of various small churches around Washington, D. C., and having them agree to have a speaker from the NNC address the congregation. [redacted] explained this would be a good foundation for the Daily Worker and indicated she would designate the speakers.

[redacted] the Communist Party in Washington has announced to its members that all ought to join the NNC. [redacted] the NNC is the pet organization of the local Communist Party Chairman, [redacted]

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100-949

[redacted]

the NNC was still conducting a campaign concerning the H Street, N. E. and the 4th St., S. W. public carrier line; further that BILL TAYLOR's wife, SHIRLEY TAYLOR, is now organizer for the NNC for the Northeast section of Washington and that LILA SECUNDY and ALICE BANCROFT were going to work with her. [redacted]

According to the Washington Post for July 29, 1946, the NNC in Washington had announced through the local chapter's executive secretary, Mrs. MARIE RICHARDSON HARRIS, that the NNC had a protest march on the White House and the Attorney General's Office by more than 5000 negroes and the other sympathizers who demanded immediate federal action on the Monroe, Georgia lynching of four negroes, to be staged in Washington on that date. It might be noted that the local press, as well as the Daily Worker, carried articles concerning this mass meeting and it was noted by agents of this office that many local Communist Party members participated in its activities. MAX YERGAN, President of the NNC, personally led the protest parade. YERGAN had anticipated conferring with President TRUMAN, but upon arrival at the White House, they were shown into the office of DAVID K. NILES, Administrative Assistant to the President. YERGAN identified himself as a former professor at the City College of New York and conferred with NILES with the following individuals: REV. SHELDON HALE BISHOP, Pastor of St. Phillips Church, New York City; REV. DANIEL L. REED, Pastor of a Baptist Church in New York City; CHARLES COLLINS, a labor organizer in New York City; JESSIE OWENS, alleged to be a witness in connection with the Columbia, Tennessee racial disturbances; MRS. THERESA ROBINSON, affiliated with the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, and also a director of the Civil Liberties Union; MRS. GERTRUDE EVANS, Executive Secretary of the Washington Industrial Union Council, CIO, [redacted] CONRAD CLARK of the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America.

b7c

On the evening of July 29th a rally was held at 10th & U Streets, Washington, D. C., which was again sponsored by the NNC. Approximately 5,000 persons were present. They were addressed by MAX YERGAN and the following [redacted] JOHN ANDERSON, RICHARD BANCROFT OLIVER PALLER. Other speakers were HENRY BEITSCHER, president of the Washington Industrial Union Council, CIO, and an alleged Communist Party member; CHARLES COLLINS, who was introduced as a candidate for the Senate for the State of New York. All of the speeches concentrated on the same theme, namely the terror spreading throughout the south as revealed by the lynching of the four negroes at Monroe, Georgia and the spreading of Fascism in the United States.

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[redacted], on July 31st, the local branch of the Congress held a meeting at 1015 M Street, N. W. which subsequently moved to the First Congregational Church at 6th & M Street, N. W., due to the large crowd which appeared at 1015 M Street. Approximately 450 persons were present and the theme of the various speakers was predicated upon the recent lynchings in Georgia, and further, for those present to call on the Federal Government for immediate action to end lynching and do away with poll tax legislation. Those present were addressed by OLIVER T. PALMER, MRS. GERTRUDE EVANS, MARIE RICHARDSON HARRIS, and RICHARD BANCROFT. b7D

[redacted] b7D

According to the Afro-American, a negro newspaper in Washington, dated August 3, 1946, the Northeast Branch of the Congress was attacking transportation problems involving colored persons and had renewed the issue of non-white bus and streetcar operators at a hearing before the Public Utilities Commission in Washington. It was stated that due to the discriminatory policy of the Capital Transit Company, over 100,000 citizens were being inconvenienced. It might be noted that the Communist Party in Washington has also on their program the issue of the Capital Transit Company.

It might be noted that on August 5th the Southern Conference for Human Welfare in cooperation with the Washington Industrial Union Council and the NNC, sponsored a parade and memorial services for the four negroes lynched at Monroe, Georgia. Agents of this Field Office secured a photograph of the funeral procession and it was noted that BILL TAYLOR, local Communist Party chairman, was in the delegation of the NNC. Press reports indicated that approximately 15,000 individuals participated in this affair.

It was reported by [redacted] that on August 9, 1946, the NNC, in conjunction with the Industrial Union Council of Washington, sponsored a picket line during the time Senator BILBO was making a radio address over Station WOL. Approximately 300 individuals participated in this line which included about 50 known members of the Communist Party in Washington, D. C. b7D

b7D

[redacted] and has attended a number of meetings of the local Congress and has expressed the opinion that the Congress is run lock, stock and barrel by BILL TAYLOR and other functionaries of the Communist Party. He has stated that the Communist Party line and the Congress line are parallel.

[redacted] letter signed by MARIE RICHARDSON HARRIS of the local Council, which concerns the petition of the NNC to the U. N. Social and Economic Council. This letter states that the petition was submitted to that body on June 6, 1946. The letter further stated that the U. N. Council had acknowledged receipt of their petition and evidence was requested regarding the suppression of the negro citizens of the United States. It was indicated that a million signatures were necessary in the United States and that the goal in Washington, D. C. was 40,000.

b7D

[redacted] DOROTHY FUNN, Executive Secretary of the NNC had recently come down from New York City [redacted] FUNN apparently was going to work in Washington for some time. He stated that apparently at about the same time, THELMA DALE, also from New York City, arrived in Washington, [redacted]

b7D

[redacted] THELMA DALE was introduced as regional secretary for the NNC National Office. [redacted] during the meeting CHARLES S. HILL, a member of the local Council [redacted] spoke concerning the Georgia lynchings and pointed out that the FBI had not solved the case. He then stated, "It is time for you people to have shotguns behind your doors. I bet 80% of you haven't even got a baseball bat behind your door." [redacted] HILL gave a very militant

speech and aroused those present to a pretty high pitch. It was announced at the meeting that on the following Thursday the NNC would answer Senator BILBO over Radio Station WOL and that the principal speaker would be MAX YERGAN.

THELMA DALE spoke previously at this meeting and announced that since MARIE RICHARDSON, who has been in charge of the local office, has been ill, she, DALE, had come down from New York City to take her place. She requested those present to furnish names of individuals who are members of their particular churches, along with the names of the pastors of the churches, so that representatives of the committee on U. N. petitions could contact them.

b7D

[redacted] advised that THELMA DALE, on many issues, was working very closely with the Communist Party and with the various functionaries of the party, all in connection with her work with the NNC.

[redacted] THELMA DALE returned to New York City on August 30th, and that DOROTHY FUNN had arrived in Washington on September 3rd, and was making her headquarters at the local NNC office.

b7D

[redacted]

[redacted]

The Washington Afro-American for September 7, 1946, carried an article which is as follows:

> "Upbraiding A. G. Tom Clark for slowness in bringing the perpetrators of the Georgia lynchings to justice, the Washington Council of the NNC asked President TRUMAN for a direct statement on the national lynching wave this week. A telegram was directed to the White House pointing out that the President has failed to issue any direct statement to the people of the country and suggests that Mr. Clark be spurred into action or replaced."

Another article in the same issue of this newspaper points out that representatives of the NNC working in practically every section of the District of Columbia, were seeking 40,000 signatures on a petition to the United Nations for a ruling on discrimination affecting colored Americans.

CONFIDENTIAL

b7D

[redacted] TAYLOR, it appears, was upset because the place finally selected was the Lincoln Memorial, and a collection could not be taken up there because it is Government property. FUNN announced at the meeting that 3700 signatures had been obtained on that date on the U. N. petitions and that the drive had been extended to October 15th. [redacted] apparently DOROTHY FUNN is going to stay in Washington and noted that THELMA DALE had returned to New York City. Approximately 15 known members of the Communist Party attended the above mentioned meeting which is about average for most of the Northwest club meetings.

On September 13th, [redacted] advised Special Agent [redacted] that on the weekend of September 21st, the NNC in conjunction with "Win the Peace" organization, will support a mass demonstration in Washington for the purpose of focusing attention on the various lynchings which have occurred throughout the south in recent weeks, and demanding Federal anti-lynching laws.

b7D

[redacted] reported that the crusade, which was to be called the American Crusade Against Lynching, was originated by PAUL ROBESON, who is the chairman for a comittee of 80, working for a federal anti-lynching law. The only Washington member of the committee is DR. JOSEPH L. JOHNSON, negro, Dean of the Howard University Medical School, and President of the local chapter of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare.

b7D

According to [redacted] in this connection, FUNN on arriving in Washington had announced that she was here mainly to arrange for this American Crusade Against Lynching.

[redacted]

b7D

CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted] b7D

[redacted]

[redacted] MARIE RICHARDSON HARRIS and FUNN again had a most serious argument concerning the part each is to play in the running of the local NNC and that FUNN is doing everything in her power to get stationed in D. C. permanently. [redacted] that on September 20th, various members of the NNC who are also members of the Communist Party in the District of Columbia, were engaged in sending out notices of the mass meeting which was scheduled for the 23rd. This writer noted during the day of the 23rd that various C. P. members were active in the plans and preparations for the American Crusade To End Lynching, and that various members of the NNC were also very active and were taking their instructions from [redacted] and other C. P. functionaries. b7C

On September 26th, [redacted] furnished the writer with a flyer entitled "Peace Betrayed!", which was issued by the C. P. in Washington. [redacted] b7D

It was announced in the Washington Afro-American for September 28, 1946, that the Washington Council of the Congress had acquired a new secretarial aide when WILLIAM TYMOUS was added to the staff as organizational secretary. It was pointed out that for the past three years he had been in military service and according to [redacted] this individual speaks and acts as other Communists with whom he is acquainted.

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It is noted in the October, 1946 issue of The Clarion, which is published by the Communist Party, District #4, that WILLIAM C. TAYLOR, in an article which discusses the many organizations active in the struggle for negro rise in Washington, points out that foremost among these organizations is the NNC and the NAACP. However, the Congress "has about the best record of accomplishments in the District". Later he says, "The campaign against police brutality has found the NNC well in the forefront. It was the NNC and the Communist Party that were responsible for the removal of one of the chiefs of police in the city."

[redacted] (S) b1

[redacted] (S) b1

[redacted] that in the event of a victory in the Georgia lynching case, and he believes it probable, he, [redacted] proposes to have a testimonial, sponsored by the NNC, to which the Communist Party will be invited. The testimonial will be in behalf of those who took a prominent part in the demands for action, etc., and he, [redacted] proposes to make a speech at this testimonial telling the people why the Communist Party was interested and setting forth step by step the things the party has done in this affair. Also, he pointed out that it has been necessary for the C. P. to come in the back door to participate in affairs sponsored by some of the "united front" organizations but he hopes to work things out so that in the future it will be possible for the party to come in the front door. b7D

CONFIDENTIAL

PENDING

CONFIDENTIAL

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Will continue to follow and report the various activities and programs of the local chapter of the NNC in Washington, and through [redacted] available to this office, will report the Communist Party's part in the affairs of the NNC. b7D

CONFIDENTIAL

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVES[illegible]ON

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY

FILE No. 100-3464

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
LOS ANGELES	11/3/46	7/24,8/5,[illegible],12,24,27,28;9/1,10,19,26;10/2,4,7,9,11,15,17,18,21/46.	[redacted] HEH

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C[illegible] 94096

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [redacted] publicity received in Daily People's World and California Eagle. Known Communists attended National convention in Detroit in May, 1946, as delegates from Los Angeles. Provisional committee for re-establishment in Los Angeles predominantly Communist and local headquarters are at Communist office. Names of individuals active in formation set forth. Mass meeting 8/11/46, demanded arrest of BILBO and TALMADGE as "lynch inciters." Mass meeting 9/22/46, urged membership of [illegible],000 and presented an informatory program.

NO DEC 1[illegible]3 4[illegible]

- P -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated August 30, 1946, at Detroit, Michigan.

DETAILS:

RE-ESTABLISHMENT IN LOS ANGELES AND COMMUNIST INFLUENCE

[redacted]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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64-6738-[illegible]

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55 DEC 23 1946

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[redacted]

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On page three of the Daily People's World for March 13, 1946, there appeared an article stating that the C.I.O. in Los Angeles was launching a drive against discrimination, which drive would include support for the re-establishment of the N.N.C. on the West Coast. The article further stated that a panel had been held on community activities which was under the chairmanship of ISIDRO ARMENTA of the I.L.W.U., and that this panel had urged that the N.N.C. be re-established in Los Angeles with the support of the C.I.O. [redacted]

[redacted] the National Negro Congress was meeting in Detroit May 30, 1946, and that on the Pacific Coast and in the Los Angeles area, "they" were supposed to develop an interest in the Negro movement [redacted]

67D

[redacted]

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64098

[redacted]

[redacted] advised that a meeting would be held on [redacted] to discuss Negro activities within the Hollywood cultural section of the Los Angeles Communist Party and Special Agent [redacted] conducted a surveillance in the vicinity of [redacted] and observed the automobiles of the following individuals parked in the immediate vicinity:

T. C. SCHAFT [redacted]
M. E. MERPIL[redacted]
EDNA MILLER, [redacted]
LEONARD L. SOKALO[redacted]
Dr. R. J. LaDOIR[redacted]
LEON MEADOW, [redacted]
Mrs. RICHARD L. FISK[redacted]
ELIZABETH BEACH, [redacted]

b7C

The Daily People's World, alleged West Coast Communist Newspaper, in its issue of July 24, 1946, contained an article stating that steps were being taken that day to form a chapter in Los Angeles of the National Negro Congress, which chapter was under the leadership of Mrs. CHARLOTTA BASS, editor and publisher of the California Eagle, and that an organizational meeting which had been held at the office of the California Eagle had included the following people:

CHARLOTTA BASS
PHILIP M. CONNOLLY
WILLIAM O'NEILL,
AUGUSTUS HAWKINS
JOHN DIAL
Mr. and Mrs. THEODORE NICHNSON
IKE ADAMS
CYRIL BRIGGS
YVONNE SHEPHERD
HELEN SAMUELS
Mr. and Mrs. CECIL PACKER

b7C

[redacted]

On July 10, 1946, [redacted] told [redacted] that he discussed the establishment of the National Negro Congress [redacted]

b7D
#2

nd stated that he had told her that the "Congress business" must be con-
med as soon as possible and that she should mobilize "our" forces.
his source stated that Mrs. BASS had replied that PHILIP CONNELLY's sec-
etary had stated that there would be a meeting on the following Friday.

[redacted] that he thought that the
uestion of the N.N.C. should be taken up at the Tuesday night board meet-
ng of the Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences,
d Professions. He also stated that a N.N.C. meeting would be held in
he office of Mrs. BASS and that he wanted her o.k. to go ahead on the
atter.

The California Eagle, in its issue of July 18, 1946, and the Los
ngeles Tribune, Negro newspaper, in its issue of August 3, 1946, reported
hat a meeting had been held for the purpose of requesting the N.N.C. to
rant a charter for the local chapter. The article in the Tribune named
he following individuals who were the "pioneer membership" of the N.N.C.
n Los Angeles:

CHARLOTTA BASS, Chairman
HELEN SAMUELS, Executive Secretary
YVONNE SHEPHERD, Recording Secretary
JOHN HOWARD LAWSON
AUGUSTUS F. HAWKINS
CARLSTON MOSS
PHILIP M. CONNOLLY
LUTHER MERRIWEATHER
OLIVER BOUTEE
WILL JACKSON
WILLIE O'NEILL
JOE DIAL, JR.
ROBERT WATE
JAMES McBRIDE
ELIZABETH FLETCHER
LaRUE McCORMICK

In the July 26, 1946, issue of the Labor Herald, official C.I.O.
ublication, there appeared an article stating that fifteen pioneer mem-
bers of the N.N.C.'s first local chapter had requested the National organi-
zation to again issue a charter for a local N.N.C. in Los Angeles and
described the request as having been forwarded by "a rough, tough, angry
organization." The article affirms the fact that CHARLOTTA BASS was chair-
man; that HELEN SAMUELS was executive secretary, and YVONNE SHEPHERD was
recording secretary. The article further stated that SAMUELS had announced
the immediate launching of a broad membership drive and was quoted as hav-
ing stated that many applicati[illegible] already been received. The formal
launching of the N.N.C. was [illegible] at a future all-day conference which

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would have three panels which would deal with such topics as housing, K.K.K., jobs, and FEPC. The article further continued by stating that the local organization would follow the lead of the National organization in basing itself on trade union membership and would fight militantly for the problems of workers and also fight the special problems of Negro workers.

[redacted]

CHARLOTTA BASS, previously described as editor and publisher of the California Eagle, a Negro newspaper, has given considerable publicity to the establishment of the National Negro Congress and on August 8, 1946, in that issue of the paper in her column entitled "On the Sidewalk," devoted her entire column to explaining the reasons why the N.N.C. was being re-established in this area and stated, "There is a sore need for a practical program of action and education among the people of the United States, Negro and white alike. This can only be done through organizations dedicated to this task." She then stated that the N.N.C. would in no way encroach upon the work presently carried on by the NAACP and that they could fight side by side for the problems of the Negro.

In the August 15, 1946, issue of the California Eagle, there appeared a lengthy article regarding a mass meeting sponsored by the N.N.C. at the Zion Hill Baptist Church, 51st and McKinley Avenue, on the previous Sunday. Among those named as having taken part in the program were Mrs. BASS; AVERILL BERMAN, radio commentator; AUGUSTUS HAWKINS; JOSEPH O'CONNOR; Reverend GRANT HARRIS, and Mrs. GERTRUDE GIBSON, who was chairman of the meeting. The meeting was also addressed by LENA HORNE, Negro actress.

[redacted]

[redacted] furnished an announcement of a mass meeting of the N.N.C. under the sponsorship of the Los Angeles Provisional Committee to be held on August 11, 1946, for the purpose of officially protest the Georgia and Mississippi lynchings, and stating that at this meeting the chapter would join with the national organization in protesting "these terrible crimes against humanity." [redacted] arrange for the services of a sound truck to publicize the N.N.C. meeting in the Central Avenue area, and PERRY has turned the matter over to WILLIAM O'NEILL to see about making such arrangements.

64101 b7D,b2

[redacted]

[redacted] request was evidently complied with inasmuch as the Daily People's World on page one of its August 8 edition carried an article stating that the mass meeting would be held on the following Sunday and stated that the meeting would be held to protest the Georgia lynchings and to obtain signatures on petitions against BILBO and TALMADGE. [redacted] continued to display an interest in this meeting and on August 10, 1946, told [redacted] that he had to go to Watts on that day to take petitions and leaflets to be distributed in the Negro churches in that area, inasmuch as there was to be a big meeting of the N.N.C. on August 11, 1946. b7D,b2

[redacted]

27/19

In the Daily People's World on August 13, 1946, on page three, there appeared an article concerning the meeting which had been held on August 11, 1946, to protest the Negro lynchings in the South and this article stated that ninety-seven new members had been recruited at that meeting. In addition, it named the individuals who participated who were stated to have been the following:

LENA HORNE
AVERILL BERMAN
AUGUSTUS HAWKINS
ARTHUR MORRISON
JOSEPH O'CONNOR.

O'CONNOR was described as being the San Pedro Agent of the CIO Marine Cooks and Stewards, and was also reported to have stated that he had been instructed by his members to affiliate with the N.N.C. b7D,b2

[redacted]

[redacted]

In connection with the mass meeting which was held on August 11, 1946, [redacted] a copy of the petitions which had been put out by the Provisional Committee of the N.N.C., and is presumably a copy of the petitions which were put out at the Sunday mass meeting. This petition demanded the immediate arrest and prosecution of BILBO and TALMADGE for inciting racial violence during their recent election campaigns. A copy of this petition is being retained in the files of the Los Angeles Field Division. b7D

LOS ANGELES REPRESENTATIVES AT NATIONAL N.N.C. CONVENTION

b7C

The report of Special Agent [redacted] dated August 30, 1946, at Detroit, Michigan, in the case entitled, "National Negro Congress," on page twenty-three sets forth the names of certain delegates who were present at the convention from the State of California and included in these was OLIVER BOUTEE (whose name was shown as OLIVER BOUETTE).

On June 11, 1946, [redacted] reported that WILLIAM O'NEILL had just returned from the National Negro Congress and it is, therefore, assumed that he was in attendance at that meeting. b7D, b2

Also in the issue of the California Eagle of July 18, 1946, a news item appeared which stated that JOHN DIAL and WILLIAM O'NEILL had given reports on the national convention of the N.N.C., and it is, therefore, believed that DIAL was also in attendance at the national convention.

ACTIVITIES OF THE N.N.C. IN LOS ANGELES

b7D, b2

[redacted]

5, b7D, b2

[redacted] at which time this source was told [redacted] that PAUL ROBESON was coming to California on October 1, 1946, with HEWELS CAYTON and that he had discussed whether ROBESON should appear in Los Angeles under the auspices of the N.N.C., [redacted] would not allow ROBESON to appear under the auspices of the N.N.C.

In the People's Daily World dated September 11, 1946, on page one, there appeared an article regarding a demonstration which had been held against the appearance of GERALD L. K. SMITH, and the article stated that the N.N.C. had participated in this demonstration and quoted HELEN SAMUELS, described as executive secretary, as stating that the N.N.C. would cooperate in further demonstrations. Other organizations named in this article as having participated in the SMITH demonstration were the I.W.O., The Mobilization for Democracy, and the American Youth for Democracy.

In the September 12, 1946, issue of the California Eagle there appeared an article stating that the National Negro Congress in Los Angeles was organizing a protest movement against the alleged activities of the Southern Pacific Railroad in segregating Negro passengers who were headed for Southern destinations. Among the individuals who were quoted as being behind this campaign of the N.N.C. were Reverend CLAYTON D. RUSSELL, DONALD BERWICKS of the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America, IKE ADAMS, and PHILIP CONNOLLY.

b7D, b6

[redacted]

The California Eagle in its issue of September 19, 1946, stated that the Provisional Committee of the Los Angeles Chapter of the N.N.C. had slated a conference or mass meeting for September 22, 1946, at the Elks Temple at 4016 South Central Avenue. The individuals scheduled to participate in this conference were:

HOWARD LAWSON	CHARLOTTA BASS
AUGUSTUS HAWKINS	PHILIP M. CONNOLLY
FRANK WILKERSON	AVERILL BERMAN
JOHN McTERNAN	WILLIAM BIDNER
JAMES ROOSEVELT	ALBERT DEKKER

He stated that every trade union, church, and organization was being called upon to participate in this mass meeting.

b7D

[redacted] meeting of the N.N.C. on September 22, 1946, at the Elks Hall [redacted] CHARLOTTA BASS was elected president of the Los Angeles chapter. [redacted] among the sponsors were WILLIAM BIDNER of the Mobilization for Democracy, CONNOLLY, CAYTON, and Mrs. BASS. [redacted]

[redacted] some of the older people were heard to remark after the completion of the meeting, "Everyone of those people are damn Communists and trying to start trouble here." They were also heard to remark that the meeting was just rot and the people were gullible and trouble would start here. [redacted] SIDNER, in his talk, criticized Mayor BOWRON of Los Angeles and his gestapo police department and he also criticized the Board of Education which allowed GERALD L. K. SMITH to speak in the Los Angeles schools. CONNOLLY was reported as criticizing Secretary of State BYRNES for supporting the British course of suppression of the darker races and CONNOLLY was reported as having stated that unions and the Negroes must work together to get a six thousand membership for the local N.N.C. and to raise $1,200. for its budget. CAYTON reportedly stated that he had made some trips into the South after the recent lynchings and that he had found that young Negroes throughout the United States were not going back to their old ways of making a living as before the war, and that if the law enforcement agencies did not do something about the Negro situation that the Negroes would. b7D

[redacted] b7D

there was what he described as a "highly inflammatory" dramatization of treatment of Negroes in the South, centering around ISAAC EDWARD, Negro, who was blinded in South Carolina. One scene of the dramatization depicted a policeman and a bus driver discussing Negro beatings and when a colored soldier approached and asked the bus departure time, he was insulted, humiliated, and ridiculed and then beaten and his eyes gouged out. It was the opinion of [redacted] and those to whom he talked that if this had been last on the program and the crowd had come out and seen a white officer making an arrest of a Negro, and using even necessary force, that it would have resulted in a riot; however, [redacted] the tension was somewhat relieved by the collection speech of AVERILL BERMAN. [redacted] many young Negroes were heard to state that even if the N.N.C. was tied in with the Communists, they were going to join anyway, because of its stand against segregation and Jim Crowism.

[redacted] told [redacted] that he had talked with [redacted] and had told her that PAUL ROBESON could come to San Diego on October 7, 1946, provided a big mass meeting was arranged for the N.N.C. [redacted] b7D,b2

In September 26, 1946, issue of the California Eagle, there appeared an editorial in praise of the N.N.C., and referred to the meeting which had been held on September 22, 1946, at the Elks Hall. Also with this article were several photographs, one of which shows Mrs. BASS addressing the mass meeting and on the platform behind her were the following individuals:

ADELE YOUNG
REVELS CAYTON
WILLIAM BIDNER
PETTIS PERRY
PHILIP CONNOLLY

64105

On October 3, 1946, the California Eagle contained a news item to the effect that ARTHUR MORRISON, described as a vice-president of the National Negro Congress and chairman of the C.I.O. Packinghouse Workers, had delivered greetings from the Negro people at a mass meeting on the previous Tuesday under the auspices of the Jewish Black Book Committee.

In the October 10, 1946, issue of the California Eagle there appeared an article concerning the picketing of Bimini Baths under the sponsorship of the International Friendship Committee and this article stated that the N.N.C. was one of the organizations which had helped man the picket line. It should be noted that Bimini Baths was being picketed by the Communist Party because it refused to allow Negroes to swim at the Bimini Baths.

HEADQUARTERS OF NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

b7D,b2

On August 26, 1946, [redacted] reported that the National Negro Congress in Los Angeles had its headquarters at 1055 East 51st Street, Los Angeles, California, and that HELEN SAMUELS was making her office at that address. It should be noted that this address is the headquarters of the AARON JOHNSON Section of the Los Angeles County Communist Party and is the office of WILLIAM O'NEILL, the chairman of the Johnson Section.

IDENTIFICATION OF INDIVIDUALS ACTIVE IN THE NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS AND ITS FORMATION

The following is a brief identification of the Communist affiliations or background of individuals who have previously been mentioned in this report or who have been reported as active in the foundation of the N.N.C. or active in meetings sponsored by the Congress:

b7c

[redacted]

) (2-7-79)

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64110

THE NEW YORK OFFICE

[redacted]

b7c

THE LOS ANGELES OFFICE

At Los Angeles, will continue to follow and report on the activities of the National Negro Congress in this area.

[redacted]

b7c

) (2-7-79)

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